

Ongoing Response Timeline

The Ongoing Administration-Wide Response to the Deepwater BP Oil Spill

Since the Deepwater Horizon explosion the night of April 20, federal authorities, both military and civilian, have been working onsite and around the clock to respond to and mitigate the impact of the resulting BP Oil Spill in the Gulf of Mexico.

We have compiled this chronology in the spirit of transparency so the American people can have a clear understanding of what their government has been and is doing to respond to the massive and potentially unprecedented environmental disaster.

MONDAY, JULY 12

BP Makes Progress on “Capping Stack” Procedure; ‘Well Integrity Test’ to Begin

After approval by National Incident Commander Admiral Thad Allen, BP made significant progress on its “capping stack” procedure—designed to capture even greater quantities of oil than the current “top hat” system. As a result of that progress, BP will perform a ‘Well Integrity Test’ tomorrow morning. This test involves closing one or more of the valves on the new cap for a period of time to allow BP to measure pressures in the well.

It also requires that the Helix Producer—which has been connected—and Q4000 collection systems be ramped down and placed in standby mode during the test. The measurements that will be taken during this test will provide valuable information about the condition of the well below the sea level and help determine whether or not it is possible to shut the well for a period of time, such as during a hurricane or bad weather, between now and when the relief wells are complete.

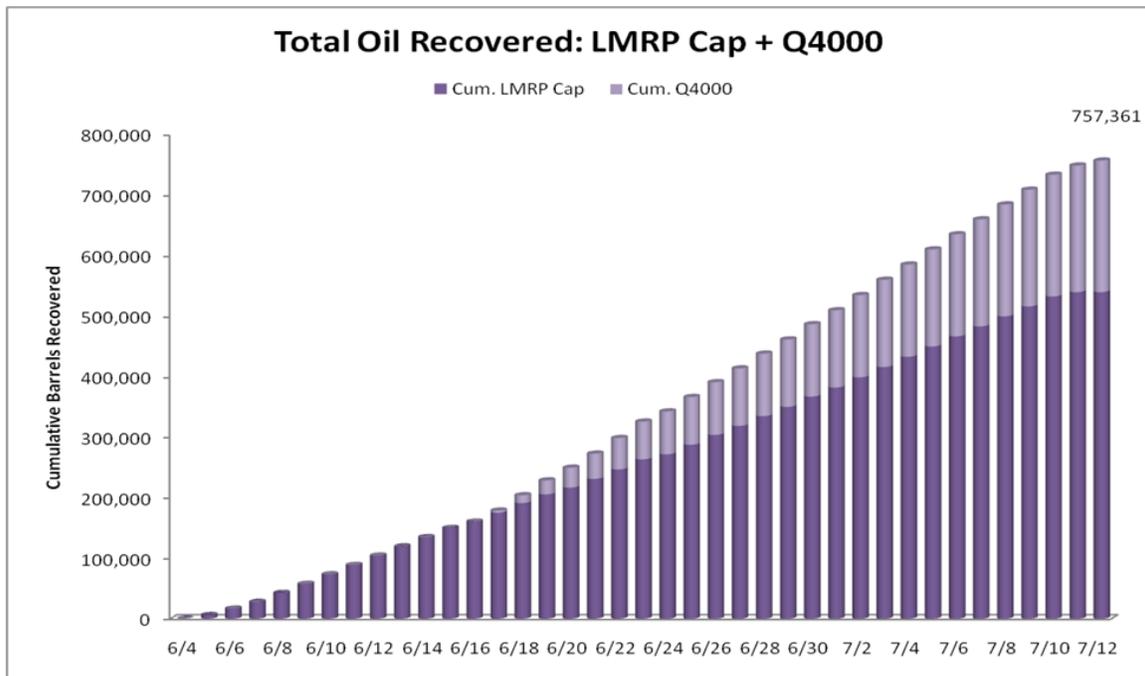
Admiral Allen has reviewed the protocols for this test, in consultation with the government science team. It will likely last anywhere from six to 48 hours or more depending on the measurements that are observed. BP will be in regular contact with the government during the test, and the government will halt the test if the risks of doing further damage to the surrounding formation are significant. Once the test has concluded, collection of the oil will resume.

Skimming Surge Continues Around the Wellsite to Combat Expected Flow Increase

In anticipation of increased oil flow during the capping stack procedure, skimmers were surged to the well site. Currently, 46 skimmers are operating in the vicinity of the well, in addition to more than 570 skimmers deployed to protect coastlines as part of the largest oil spill response in U.S. history. Throughout this response, the federal government has directed BP to develop more detailed plans, create redundancy measures in case those plans fail, and apply additional resources to the largest response to an oil spill in our nation’s history.

The graph below, produced by the Department of Energy, demonstrates the cumulative amount

of oil recovered to date, combining the *Discoverer Enterprise* and the *Q4000*.



Secretary Salazar Issues New Suspensions to Guide Safe Pause on Deepwater Drilling

In order to protect communities, coasts, and wildlife from the risks that deepwater drilling currently pose, Interior Secretary Ken Salazar today issued new suspensions of deepwater drilling on the Outer Continental Shelf, saying a pause is needed to ensure that oil and gas companies first implement adequate safety measures to reduce the risks associated with deepwater drilling operations and are prepared for blowouts and oil spills.

Shallow water drilling activities, which do not present the same type or level of risks as deepwater drilling operations, can continue to move forward if operators are in compliance with all safety and environmental requirements, including new safety and environmental requirements implemented through recent Notices to Lessees. Production activities in federal waters of the Gulf are not affected by the deepwater drilling suspensions. For more information, click [here](#).

FWS Releases 33 Birds and 22 Turtle Hatchlings Back to the Wild

As part of continued efforts to protect wildlife and wildlife habitats in the Gulf of Mexico from the impacts of the BP oil spill, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service today released 22 brown pelicans and 11 Northern Gannets back to the wild at a city park adjacent to the J.N. Ding Darling National Wildlife Refuge in Sanibel Island, Fla. The birds were transferred from the Bird Rehabilitation Centers in Fort Jackson, La., and Theodore, Ala.

At midnight last night, 22 hatchlings from the first Ridley sea turtle nest translocation project were released into the Atlantic Ocean at the Kennedy Space Center/Canaveral National Seashore in Florida. Dozens of nest relocations are expected to take place over the next several weeks.

Progress Continues in Drilling Relief Wells

The drilling of relief wells continues. The *Development Driller III* has drilled the first relief well to a depth of 17,840 feet below the Gulf surface. The *Development Driller II* has drilled the second relief well—a redundancy measure taken at the direction of the administration—to a depth of approximately 15,960 feet below the surface. BP continues the “ranging” process—which involves periodically withdrawing the drill pipe and sending an electrical signal down to determine how close they are getting to the wellbore.

Successful Controlled Burn

Favorable weather conditions allowed responders to conduct a successful controlled burn operation for the fourth consecutive day. As part of a coordinated response that combines tactics deployed above water, below water, offshore, and close to coastal areas, controlled burns efficiently remove oil from the open water in an effort to protect shoreline and wildlife. To date, more than 330 controlled burns have removed more than 10.3 million gallons of oil from the water.

Approved SBA Economic Injury Assistance Loans Surpass \$12 Million

SBA has approved 158 economic injury assistance loans to date, totaling more than \$12.3 million for small businesses in the Gulf Coast impacted by the BP oil spill. Additionally, the agency has granted deferments on 616 existing SBA disaster loans in the region, totaling more than \$3.5 million per month in payments. For information on assistance loans for affected businesses, visit the SBA’s Web site at www.sba.gov/services/disasterassistance, call (800) 659-2955 (800-877-8339 for the hearing impaired), or email disastercustomerservice@sba.gov.

Administration Continues to Oversee BP’s Claims Process

The administration will continue to hold the responsible parties accountable for repairing the damage, and repaying Americans who’ve suffered a financial loss as a result of the BP oil spill. To date, 106,294 claims have been opened, from which more than \$164.9 million have been disbursed. No claims have been denied to date. There are 1,050 claims adjusters on the ground. To file a claim, visit www.bp.com/claims or call BP’s helpline at 1-800-440-0858. Those who have already pursued the BP claims process and are not satisfied with BP’s resolution can call the Coast Guard at (800) 280-7118. Additional information about the BP claims process and all available avenues of assistance can be found at www.disasterassistance.gov.

By the Numbers to Date:

- The administration has authorized the deployment of 17,500 National Guard troops from Gulf Coast states to respond to this crisis; currently, 1,525 are active.

- More than 45,000 personnel are currently responding to protect the shoreline and wildlife and cleanup vital coastlines.
- More than 6,700 vessels are currently responding on site, including skimmers, tugs, barges, and recovery vessels to assist in containment and cleanup efforts—in addition to dozens of aircraft, remotely operated vehicles, and multiple mobile offshore drilling units.
- More than 3.12 million feet of containment boom and 6.16 million feet of sorbent boom have been deployed to contain the spill—and approximately 816,000 feet of containment boom and 2.32 million feet of sorbent boom are available.
- More than 31 million gallons of an oil-water mix have been recovered.
- Approximately 1.79 million gallons of total dispersant have been applied—1.07 million on the surface and 721,000 sub-sea. Approximately 454,000 gallons are available.
- 330 controlled burns have been conducted, efficiently removing a total of more than 10.3 million gallons of oil from the open water in an effort to protect shoreline and wildlife. Because calculations on the volume of oil burned can take more than 48 hours, the reported total volume may not reflect the most recent controlled burns.
- 17 staging areas are in place to protect sensitive shorelines.
- Approximately 553 miles of Gulf Coast shoreline is currently oiled—approximately 313 miles in Louisiana, 99 miles in Mississippi, 66 miles in Alabama, and 75 miles in Florida. These numbers reflect a daily snapshot of shoreline currently experiencing impacts from oil so that planning and field operations can more quickly respond to new impacts; they do not include cumulative impacts to date, or shoreline that has already been cleared.
- Approximately 81,181 square miles of Gulf of Mexico federal waters remain closed to fishing in order to balance economic and public health concerns. More than 66 percent remains open. Details can be found at <http://sero.nmfs.noaa.gov/>.
- To date, the administration has leveraged assets and skills from numerous foreign countries and international organizations as part of this historic, all-hands-on-deck response, including Belgium, Canada, China, France, Germany, Ireland, Japan, Kenya, Mexico, Netherlands, Norway, Qatar, Russia, Spain, Tunisia, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom, the United Nations' International Maritime Organization, the European Union's Monitoring and Information Centre, and the European Maritime Safety Agency.

SUNDAY, JULY 11

“Capping Stack” Procedure Continues, Skimming Operations Double at Well Site

At the Administration’s direction, BP continues its “capping stack” procedure—designed to capture even greater quantities of oil than the current “top hat” system. In anticipation of increased oil flow following the removal of the top hat containment device, skimmers were surged to the well site—allowing crews to take advantage of good weather conditions and skim an estimated 25,500 barrels of oily water, double the amount collected the previous day.

Currently, 46 skimmers are operating in the vicinity of the well, in addition to more than 570

skimmers deployed to protect coastlines as part of the largest oil spill response in U.S. history.

BP also is in the process of connecting a third vessel, the Helix Producer, which will increase collection capacity to an estimated 53,000 barrels per day by bringing up additional oil up through the kill line—a redundancy measure also taken at the administration’s direction.

Throughout this response, the federal government has directed BP to develop more detailed plans, create redundancy measures in case those plans fail, and apply additional resources to the largest response to an oil spill in our nation’s history.

Successful Controlled Burn

Favorable weather conditions allowed responders to conduct a successful controlled burn operation for the third consecutive day. As part of a coordinated response that combines tactics deployed above water, below water, offshore, and close to coastal areas, controlled burns efficiently remove oil from the open water in an effort to protect shoreline and wildlife. To date, more than 10.3 million gallons of oil have been removed from the water by controlled burns.

Personnel Continue Wildlife Rescue and Recovery Missions Across the Region

From the Houma, La., Incident Command Post, a total of 240 personnel, 82 vessels, and five helicopters participated in reconnaissance and wildlife rescue and recovery missions. The Wildlife Hotline received 79 reports of oiled/injured birds, four oiled/injured fish, four oiled/injured reptiles, and four oiled/injured mammals.

From the Mobile, Ala., Incident Command Post, 27 two-person teams, 17 support personnel and 12 boats participated in reconnaissance and wildlife rescue and recovery missions. 48 calls were received on the Wildlife Hotline.

Progress Continues in Drilling Relief Wells

The drilling of relief wells continues. The Development Driller III has drilled the first relief well to a depth of 17,810 feet below the Gulf surface. The Development Driller II has drilled the second relief well—a redundancy measure taken at the direction of the administration—to a depth of more than 15,900 feet below the surface. BP continues the “ranging” process—which involves periodically withdrawing the drill pipe and sending an electrical signal down to determine how close they are getting to the wellbore.

Administration Continues to Oversee BP’s Claims Process

The administration will continue to hold the responsible parties accountable for repairing the damage, and repaying Americans who’ve suffered a financial loss as a result of the BP oil spill. To date, 104,661 claims have been opened, from which more than \$165.1 million have been disbursed. No claims have been denied to date. There are 999 claims adjusters on the ground. To file a claim, visit www.bp.com/claims or call BP’s helpline at 1-800-440-0858. Those who have already pursued the BP claims process and are not satisfied with BP’s resolution can call the

Coast Guard at (800) 280-7118. Additional information about the BP claims process and all available avenues of assistance can be found at www.disasterassistance.gov.

By the Numbers to Date:

- The administration has authorized the deployment of 17,500 National Guard troops from Gulf Coast states to respond to this crisis; currently, 1,545 are active.
- More than 46,200 personnel are currently responding to protect the shoreline and wildlife and cleanup vital coastlines.
- More than 6,400 vessels are currently responding on site, including skimmers, tugs, barges, and recovery vessels to assist in containment and cleanup efforts—in addition to dozens of aircraft, remotely operated vehicles, and multiple mobile offshore drilling units.
- More than 3.11 million feet of containment boom and 6.01 million feet of sorbent boom have been deployed to contain the spill—and approximately 834,000 feet of containment boom and 2.53 million feet of sorbent boom are available.
- More than 30.25 million gallons of an oil-water mix have been recovered.
- Approximately 1.78 million gallons of total dispersant have been applied—1.07 million on the surface and 706,000 sub-sea. Approximately 469,000 gallons are available.
- 315 controlled burns have been conducted, efficiently removing a total of approximately 10.3 million gallons of oil from the open water in an effort to protect shoreline and wildlife. Because calculations on the volume of oil burned can take more than 48 hours, the reported total volume may not reflect the most recent controlled burns.
- 17 staging areas are in place to protect sensitive shorelines.
- Approximately 541 miles of Gulf Coast shoreline is currently oiled—approximately 302 miles in Louisiana, 97 miles in Mississippi, 65 miles in Alabama, and 77 miles in Florida. These numbers reflect a daily snapshot of shoreline currently experiencing impacts from oil so that planning and field operations can more quickly respond to new impacts; they do not include cumulative impacts to date, or shoreline that has already been cleared.
- Approximately 81,181 square miles of Gulf of Mexico federal waters remain closed to fishing in order to balance economic and public health concerns. More than 66 percent remains open. Details can be found at <http://sero.nmfs.noaa.gov/>.
- To date, the administration has leveraged assets and skills from numerous foreign countries and international organizations as part of this historic, all-hands-on-deck response, including Belgium, Canada, China, France, Germany, Ireland, Japan, Kenya, Mexico, Netherlands, Norway, Qatar, Russia, Spain, Tunisia, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom, the United Nations' International Maritime Organization, the European Union's Monitoring and Information Centre, and the European Maritime Safety Agency.

SATURDAY, JULY 10

At the Administration's Direction, BP Begins "Capping Stack" Procedure

After receiving approval from National Incident Commander Admiral Thad Allen, BP began its "capping stack" procedure—designed to capture even greater quantities of oil than the current "top hat" system. Admiral Allen issued the following statement on his decision to allow BP to move forward with this strategy:

"After reviewing Bob Dudley's response to my July 8 letter outlining BP's proposed plan of action for oil containment efforts, and consulting top government scientists and engineers including Secretary Chu, I approved BP's plan to simultaneously install the Helix Producer and "capping stack" containment mechanisms, which will require temporary suspension of the current top hat containment system. I validated this plan because the capacity for oil containment when these installations are complete will be far greater than the capabilities we have achieved using current systems. In addition, favorable weather expected over the coming days will provide the working conditions necessary for these transitions to be successfully completed without delays. The transition to this new containment infrastructure could begin in the next days but will take seven to ten days to complete. I have also directed BP to provide daily briefings and regular informational updates to the media throughout this capping process."

BP also is in the process of connecting a third vessel, the Helix Producer, which will increase collection capacity to an estimated 53,000 barrels per day by bringing up additional oil up through the kill line—a redundancy measure also taken at the administration's direction.

Throughout this response, the federal government has directed BP to develop more detailed plans, create redundancy measures in case those plans fail, and apply additional resources to the largest response to an oil spill in our nation's history.

Rear Admiral Paul Zukunft Will Assume Duties as Federal On-Scene Coordinator

National Incident Commander Admiral Thad Allen announced that Rear Adm. Paul Zukunft is scheduled to relieve Rear Adm. James Watson as the Federal On-Scene Coordinator for the Deepwater Horizon oil spill response on Monday, July 12.

Zukunft, who has been in the region for several weeks overseeing strategic planning while preparing to assume the role of Federal On Scene Coordinator, is the Coast Guard's assistant commandant for marine safety, security and stewardship.

In that role he is responsible for developing national marine safety, security and environmental protection doctrine, policy, and regulations. In addition, he oversees the important work of numerous federal advisory committees and international partnerships related to marine safety, security, and environmental protection.

Admiral Allen issued the following statement: "I commend Admiral Watson's job as the Federal On-Scene Coordinator, and he has been instrumental to key decisions in the oil collection process. As he returns to Atlantic Area to ensure the Coast Guard's long term ability to support this operation and others, I am confident that Admiral Zukunft will continue the efforts to ensure

BP secures the well completely while operationally sustaining this historic response.”

Successful Controlled Burn

Favorable weather conditions allowed responders to conduct a successful controlled burn operation for the second consecutive day. As part of a coordinated response that combines tactics deployed above water, below water, offshore, and close to coastal areas, controlled burns efficiently remove oil from the open water in an effort to protect shoreline and wildlife.

Personnel Continue Wildlife Rescue and Recovery Missions Across the Region

From the Houma, La., Incident Command Post, a total of 234 personnel, 82 vessels, and five helicopters participated in reconnaissance and wildlife rescue and recovery missions. The Wildlife Hotline received 66 reports of oiled/injured birds, 12 oiled/injured fish, three oiled/injured reptiles, and three oiled/injured mammals.

From the Mobile, Ala., Incident Command Post, 26 two-person teams, 14 support personnel and 12 boats participated in reconnaissance and wildlife rescue and recovery missions. 70 calls were received on the Wildlife Hotline.

Oil Surveys Continue Along Texas Coast

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the Coast Guard are working closely with the state of Texas to identify oiled locations and test reported oil to determine its source.

Progress Continues in Drilling Relief Wells

The drilling of relief wells continues and has not been interrupted by elevated sea states. The Development Driller III has drilled the first relief well to a depth of 17,780 feet below the Gulf surface. The Development Driller II has drilled the second relief well—a redundancy measure taken at the direction of the administration—to a depth of 14,500 feet below the surface. BP continues the “ranging” process—which involves periodically withdrawing the drill pipe and sending an electrical signal down to determine how close they are getting to the wellbore.

Administration Continues to Oversee BP’s Claims Process

The administration will continue to hold the responsible parties accountable for repairing the damage, and repaying Americans who’ve suffered a financial loss as a result of the BP oil spill. To date, 103,013 claims have been opened, from which more than \$162.6 million have been disbursed. No claims have been denied to date. There are 999 claims adjusters on the ground. To file a claim, visit www.bp.com/claims or call BP’s helpline at 1-800-440-0858. Those who have already pursued the BP claims process and are not satisfied with BP’s resolution can call the Coast Guard at (800) 280-7118. Additional information about the BP claims process and all available avenues of assistance can be found at www.disasterassistance.gov.

By the Numbers to Date:

- The administration has authorized the deployment of 17,500 National Guard troops from Gulf Coast states to respond to this crisis; currently, 1,580 are active.
- More than 46,400 personnel are currently responding to protect the shoreline and wildlife and cleanup vital coastlines.
- More than 6,800 vessels are currently responding on site, including skimmers, tugs, barges, and recovery vessels to assist in containment and cleanup efforts—in addition to dozens of aircraft, remotely operated vehicles, and multiple mobile offshore drilling units.
- More than 3.06 million feet of containment boom and 5.65 million feet of sorbent boom have been deployed to contain the spill—and approximately 851,000 feet of containment boom and 2.1 million feet of sorbent boom are available.
- More than 29.1 million gallons of an oil-water mix have been recovered.
- Approximately 1.76 million gallons of total dispersant have been applied—1.07 million on the surface and 692,000 sub-sea. Approximately 440,000 gallons are available.
- 286 controlled burns have been conducted, efficiently removing a total of approximately 10 million gallons of oil from the open water in an effort to protect shoreline and wildlife. Because calculations on the volume of oil burned can take more than 48 hours, the reported total volume may not reflect the most recent controlled burns.
- 17 staging areas are in place to protect sensitive shorelines.
- Approximately 551 miles of Gulf Coast shoreline is currently oiled—approximately 297 miles in Louisiana, 97 miles in Mississippi, 65 miles in Alabama, and 92 miles in Florida. These numbers reflect a daily snapshot of shoreline currently experiencing impacts from oil so that planning and field operations can more quickly respond to new impacts; they do not include cumulative impacts to date, or shoreline that has already been cleared.
- Approximately 81,181 square miles of Gulf of Mexico federal waters remain closed to fishing in order to balance economic and public health concerns. More than 66 percent remains open. Details can be found at <http://sero.nmfs.noaa.gov/>.
- To date, the administration has leveraged assets and skills from numerous foreign countries and international organizations as part of this historic, all-hands-on-deck response, including Belgium, Canada, China, France, Germany, Ireland, Japan, Kenya, Mexico, Netherlands, Norway, Qatar, Russia, Spain, Tunisia, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom, the United Nations' International Maritime Organization, the European Union's Monitoring and Information Centre, and the European Maritime Safety Agency.

FRIDAY, JULY 9

Admiral Allen Provides Operational Update on the BP Oil Spill Response

National Incident Commander Admiral Thad Allen provided a briefing to inform the American public and answer questions on the progress of the administration-wide response to the BP oil

spill. A transcript is available [here](#).

BP Responds to Admiral Allen’s Letter Directing BP to Provide More Detailed Plans and Timelines

Yesterday, Admiral Allen sent a [letter](#) to BP Chief Managing Director Bob Dudley directing BP to provide him—within the next 24 hours—with more detailed plans and timelines relating to efforts to stop the leaking oil and protect the shoreline.

BP today responded with a [letter](#) containing details on those plans and timelines, which in part, are still being finalized in a meeting today with federal representatives and a team of government scientists led by Secretary Chu. Throughout this response, the federal government has directed BP to develop more detailed plans, create redundancy measures in case those plans fail, and apply additional resources to the largest response to an oil spill in our nation’s history.

FWS Relocates Approximately 100 Turtle Eggs; Releases Three Rehabilitated Pied-Billed Grebes Back to Will

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) today participated in the relocation of approximately 100 turtle eggs from the northern Gulf of Mexico to the East Coast of the Florida Peninsula. The eggs were carefully removed from their nests and packed into coolers before being transported to Merritt Island National Wildlife Refuge.

Yesterday, FWS released three rehabilitated pied-billed grebes—rescued from Perdido Key, Miramar, and Gulf Breeze beaches in Florida—at Lake Talquin, near Tallahassee, Fla.

Governor Charlie Crist joined members of FWS, the Florida Fish and Wildlife Commission, and Tri-State Bird Rescue & Research, to participate in the release.

Wildlife rescue and recovery crews continue to survey affected areas using hundreds of personnel and dozens of vessels, as well as numerous airboats and helicopters to protect Gulf Coast wildlife and habitats from the effects of the BP oil spill. On Thursday, rescue and recovery teams responded to a total of 168 calls to the Wildlife Hotline reporting oiled or injured wildlife along the Gulf Coast. To report oiled wildlife, call (866) 557-1401.

HHS Provides Resources on Mental Health Issues Related to the BP Oil Spill

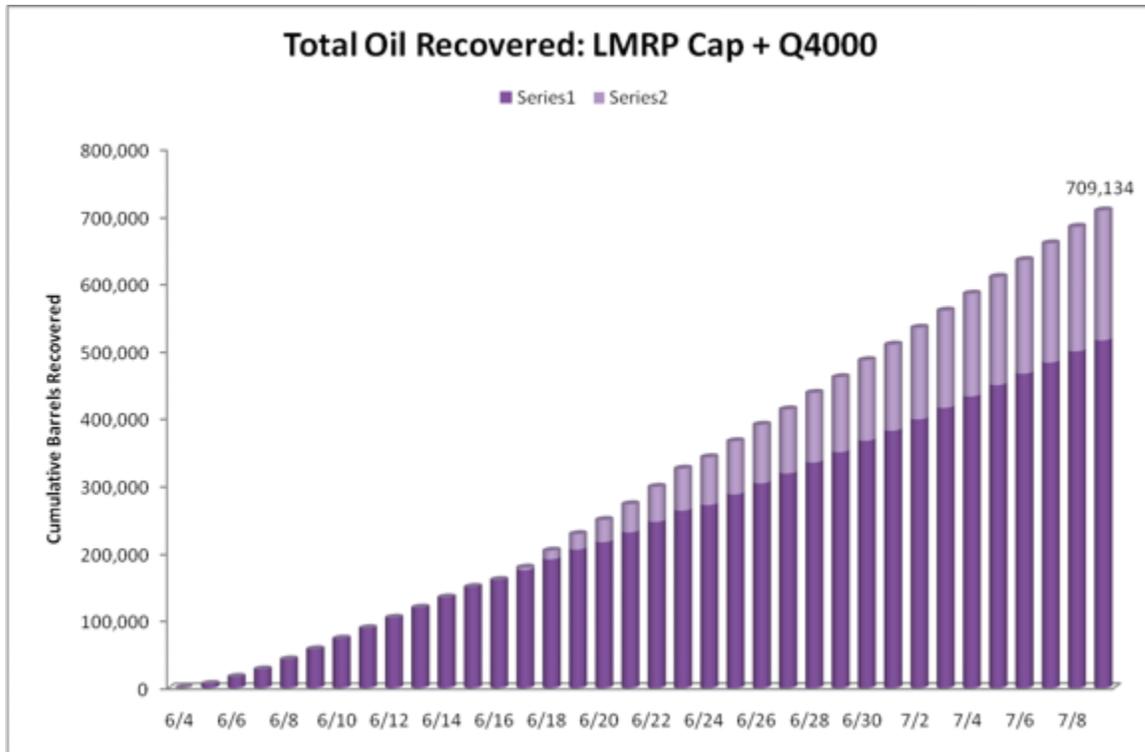
As part of continued efforts to address the many health impacts of the BP oil spill, the Department of Health and Human Services is working to raise awareness about mental health issues that may affect Gulf Coast residents. Click [here](#) for resources on dealing with mental health issues.

BP Continues to Optimize Oil Recovery Rates; Prepares to Increase Collection Capacity

Under the direction of the federal government, BP continues to capture some oil and burn gas at

the surface using its containment dome technique—collecting oil aboard the Discoverer Enterprise, which is linked by a fixed riser pipe to the wellhead, and flaring off additional oil and gas on the Q4000, which is connected to the choke line. BP also is in the process of connecting a third vessel, the Helix Producer, which will increase collection capacity to an estimated 53,000 barrels per day by bringing up additional oil up through the kill line—a redundancy measure also taken at the administration’s direction.

The graph below, produced by the Department of Energy, demonstrates the cumulative amount of oil recovered to date, combining the containment cap and the Q4000.



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The Development Driller III has drilled the first relief well to a depth of 17,780 feet below the Gulf surface. The Development Driller II has drilled the second relief well—a redundancy measure taken at the direction of the administration—to a depth of 14,500 feet below the surface. BP continues the “ranging” process—which involves periodically withdrawing the drill pipe and sending an electrical signal down to determine how close they are getting to the wellbore.

Approved SBA Economic Injury Assistance Loans Top \$11.7 Million

SBA has approved 150 economic injury assistance loans to date, totaling more than \$11.7 million for small businesses in the Gulf Coast impacted by the BP oil spill. Additionally, the agency has granted deferments on 601 existing SBA disaster loans in the region, totaling more

than \$3.4 million per month in payments. For information on assistance loans for affected businesses, visit the SBA's Web site at www.sba.gov/services/disasterassistance, call (800) 659-2955 (800-877-8339 for the hearing impaired), or email disastercustomerservice@sba.gov.

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- More than 47,400 personnel are currently responding to protect the shoreline and wildlife and cleanup vital coastlines.
- More than 6,600 vessels are currently responding on site, including skimmers, tugs, barges, and recovery vessels to assist in containment and cleanup efforts—in addition to dozens of aircraft, remotely operated vehicles, and multiple mobile offshore drilling units.
- More than 3.02 million feet of containment boom and 5.65 million feet of sorbent boom have been deployed to contain the spill—and approximately 900,000 feet of containment boom and 2.1 million feet of sorbent boom are available.
- More than 28.7 million gallons of an oil-water mix have been recovered.
- Approximately 1.75 million gallons of total dispersant have been applied—1.07 million on the surface and 681,000 sub-sea. Approximately 386,000 gallons are available.
- 275 controlled burns have been conducted, efficiently removing a total of approximately 10 million gallons of oil from the open water in an effort to protect shoreline and wildlife. Because calculations on the volume of oil burned can take more than 48 hours, the reported total volume may not reflect the most recent controlled burns.
- 17 staging areas are in place to protect sensitive shorelines.
- Approximately 534 miles of Gulf Coast shoreline is currently oiled—approximately 288 miles in Louisiana, 91 miles in Mississippi, 65 miles in Alabama, and 90 miles in Florida. These numbers reflect a daily snapshot of shoreline currently experiencing impacts from oil so that planning and field operations can more quickly respond to new impacts; they do not include cumulative impacts to date, or shoreline that has already been cleared.
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- To date, the administration has leveraged assets and skills from numerous foreign countries and international organizations as part of this historic, all-hands-on-deck

response, including Belgium, Canada, China, France, Germany, Ireland, Japan, Kenya, Mexico, Netherlands, Norway, Qatar, Russia, Spain, Tunisia, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom, the United Nations' International Maritime Organization, the European Union's Monitoring and Information Centre, and the European Maritime Safety Agency.

THURSDAY, JULY 8

Admiral Allen Directs BP to Provide More Details on Plans and Timelines

National Incident Commander Admiral Thad Allen today sent a letter to BP Chief Managing Director Bob Dudley directing BP to provide him—within the next 24 hours—with more detailed plans and timelines relating to efforts to stop the leaking oil and protect the shoreline. Throughout this response, the federal government has directed BP to develop more detailed plans, create redundancy measures in case those plans fail, and apply additional resources to the largest response to an oil spill in our nation's history. Click [here](#) to view the letter.

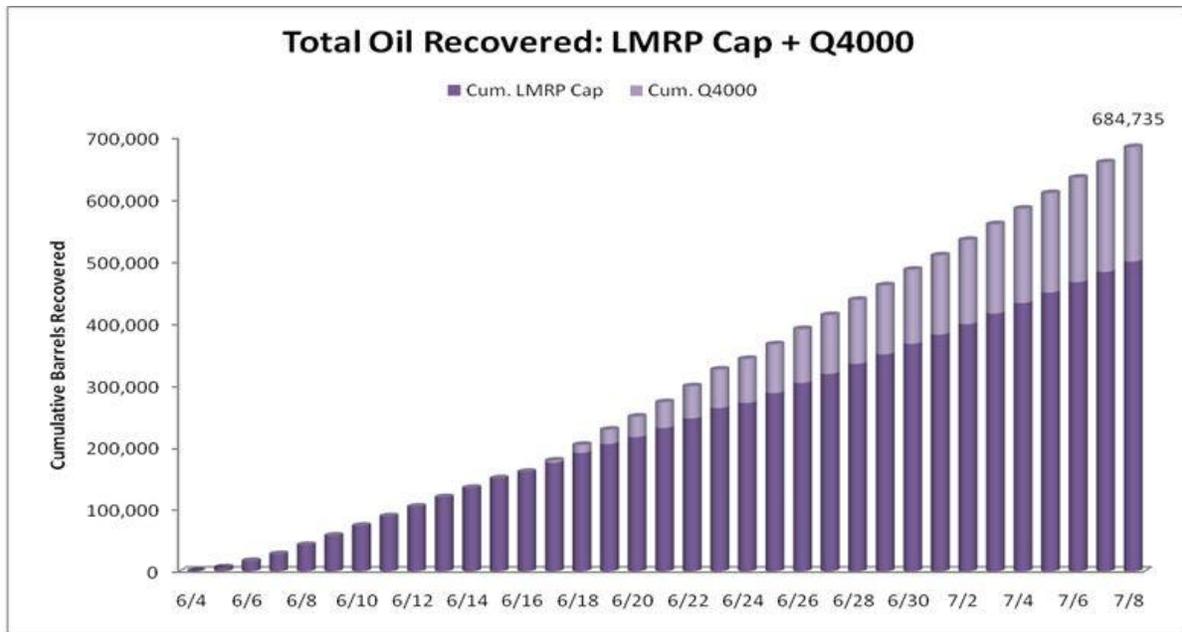
Admiral Allen Provides Operational Update on the BP Oil Spill Response

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BP Continues to Optimize Oil Recovery Rates; Prepares to Increase Collection Capacity

Under the direction of the federal government, BP continues to capture some oil and burn gas at the surface using its containment dome technique—collecting oil aboard the *Discoverer Enterprise*, which is linked by a fixed riser pipe to the wellhead, and flaring off additional oil and gas on the *Q4000*, which is connected to the choke line. BP also is in the progress of connecting a floating riser pipe to third vessel, the *Helix Producer*, which will increase collection capacity to an estimated 53,000 barrels per day by bringing up additional oil up through the kill line—a redundancy measure also taken at the administration's direction.

The graph below, produced by the Department of Energy, demonstrates the cumulative amount of oil recovered to date, combining the containment cap and the *Q4000*.



NIH to Conduct Research to Examine Potential Effects of BP Oil Spill on Human Health

The National Institutes of Health (NIH) announced that \$10 million will be devoted to research the potential human health effects of the oil spill. The NIH National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences (NIEHS) will recruit clean-up workers and Gulf residents to collect biological samples, health histories, and information about the clean-up work they performed and the nature of their oil exposure.

In the near term, NIH will establish a baseline of such information, and then monitor the oil spill workers for respiratory, immunological and neurobehavioral effects. NIEHS will work with other federal partners, local communities and universities to assess and implement its research plan.

NOAA Continues to Monitor the Health of Dolphin Populations in the Gulf Coast

NOAA is working closely with its state and local partners to monitor and assess the impacts of the BP oil spill on coastal populations of bottlenose dolphins, conducting aerial and boat-based surveys to document potential changes that represent physical or behavioral signs of distress.

In response to calls from concerned citizens about distressed dolphins or dolphins found in areas impacted by the oil spill, NOAA is advising the public to report any dead, stranded, or distressed dolphins or other marine mammals to the wildlife hotline at (866) 557-1401. For more information on what to do when encountering a distressed dolphin, click [here](#).

Federal Officials and BP Host Open House for Louisiana Residents in Lafourche Parish

As part of continued efforts to inform Louisiana residents on the BP oil spill response and available assistance, representatives of the Coast Guard, Fish and Wildlife Service, the

Environmental Protection Agency, the Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality, and other state and local partner agencies joined BP to host an “Open House Expo” in Lafourche Parish, La.

Experts from the various agencies participating in the BP oil spill response were on hand to discuss a variety of topics with Parish residents—including the claims process, volunteer and contracting opportunities, environmental quality, worker safety and the various tools, equipment and strategies being used in the response. Previous meetings were held in Cameron Parish, St. Bernard Parish, Iberia Parish, Jefferson Parish, St. Mary’s Parish and Orleans Parish.

Approved SBA Economic Injury Assistance Loans Top \$11 Million

SBA has approved 144 economic injury assistance loans to date, totaling more than \$11 million for small businesses in the Gulf Coast impacted by the BP oil spill. Additionally, the agency has granted deferments on 592 existing SBA disaster loans in the region, totaling more than \$3.4 million per month in payments. For information on assistance loans for affected businesses, visit the SBA’s Web site at www.sba.gov/services/disasterassistance, call (800) 659-2955 (800-877-8339 for the hearing impaired), or email disastercustomerservice@sba.gov.

Administration Continues to Oversee BP’s Claims Process; 100,000 Claims Filed

The administration will continue to hold the responsible parties accountable for repairing the damage, and repaying Americans who’ve suffered a financial loss as a result of the BP oil spill. To date, 100,699 claims have been opened, from which more than \$157.5 million have been disbursed. No claims have been denied to date. There are 999 claims adjusters on the ground. To file a claim, visit www.bp.com/claims or call BP’s helpline at 1-800-440-0858. Those who have already pursued the BP claims process and are not satisfied with BP’s resolution can call the Coast Guard at (800) 280-7118. Additional information about the BP claims process and all available avenues of assistance can be found at www.disasterassistance.gov.

By the Numbers to Date:

- The administration has authorized the deployment of 17,500 National Guard troops from Gulf Coast states to respond to this crisis; currently, 1,559 are active.
- More than 47,800 personnel are currently responding to protect the shoreline and wildlife and cleanup vital coastlines.
- More than 6,600 vessels are currently responding on site, including skimmers, tugs, barges, and recovery vessels to assist in containment and cleanup efforts—in addition to dozens of aircraft, remotely operated vehicles, and multiple mobile offshore drilling units.
- More than 3 million feet of containment boom and 5.48 million feet of sorbent boom have been deployed to contain the spill—and approximately 930,000 feet of containment boom and 2.27 million feet of sorbent boom are available.
- More than 28.7 million gallons of an oil-water mix have been recovered.
- Approximately 1.74 million gallons of total dispersant have been applied—1.07 million on the surface and 669,000 sub-sea. Approximately 397,000 gallons are available.

- 275 controlled burns have been conducted, efficiently removing a total of approximately 10 million gallons of oil from the open water in an effort to protect shoreline and wildlife. Because calculations on the volume of oil burned can take more than 48 hours, the reported total volume may not reflect the most recent controlled burns.
- 17 staging areas are in place to protect sensitive shorelines.
- Approximately 519 miles of Gulf Coast shoreline is currently oiled—approximately 293 miles in Louisiana, 77 miles in Mississippi, 64 miles in Alabama, and 85 miles in Florida. These numbers reflect a daily snapshot of shoreline currently experiencing impacts from oil so that planning and field operations can more quickly respond to new impacts; they do not include cumulative impacts to date, or shoreline that has already been cleared.
- Approximately 81,181 square miles of Gulf of Mexico federal waters remain closed to fishing in order to balance economic and public health concerns. More than 66 percent remains open. Details can be found at <http://sero.nmfs.noaa.gov/>.
- To date, the administration has leveraged assets and skills from numerous foreign countries and international organizations as part of this historic, all-hands-on-deck response, including Belgium, Canada, China, France, Germany, Ireland, Japan, Kenya, Mexico, Netherlands, Norway, Qatar, Russia, Spain, Tunisia, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom, the United Nations' International Maritime Organization, the European Union's Monitoring and Information Centre, and the European Maritime Safety Agency.

WEDNESDAY, JULY 7

Administration Launches New, Streamlined Oil Spill Response Website

A new federal web portal was launched today—RestoreTheGulf.gov—dedicated to providing the American people with clear and accessible information and resources related to the BP Deepwater Horizon oil spill response and recovery.

RestoreTheGulf.gov is designed to serve as a one-stop repository for news, data and operational updates related to administration-wide efforts to stop the BP oil leak and mitigate its impact on the environment, the economy and public health—unifying web resources across the administration and increasing public access to the latest information.

The site offers easy-to-navigate information about the claims and appeals process—as well as other types of assistance available from federal, state, local and non-government sources—for individuals, businesses and communities who have been affected by the spill. It will also contain information about plans for the long-term economic and environmental restoration in the Gulf Coast region. Visit RestoreTheGulf.gov.

Admiral Allen Provides Operational Update While Aboard the *Discoverer Enterprise*

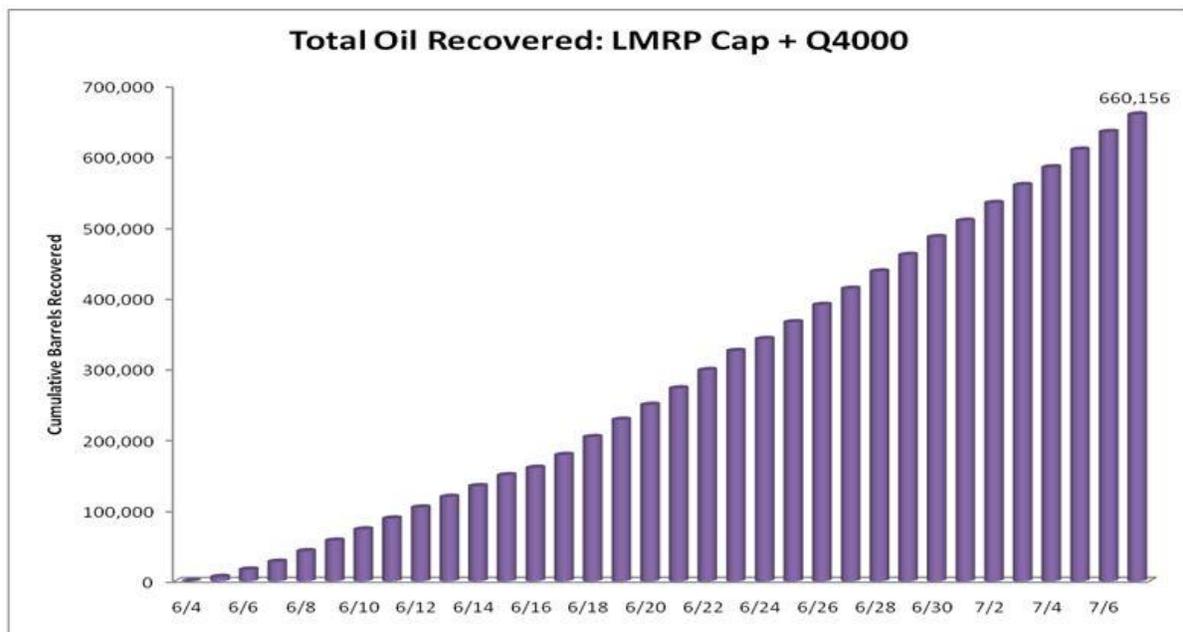
National Incident Commander Admiral Thad Allen provided a briefing to inform the American public and answer questions on the progress of the administration-wide response to the BP oil spill aboard the *Discoverer Enterprise*. A transcript is available [here](#).

Allen traveled to the well site to get a firsthand look at on-scene conditions in the wake of the passage of recent severe weather, as well as the front currently passing over the Yucatan, which has generated sea states that have had an impact on operations.

Oil Recovered Graph Demonstrates Collection Progress

Under the direction of the federal government, BP continues to capture some oil and burn gas at the surface using its containment dome technique—collecting oil aboard the *Discoverer Enterprise*, which is linked by a fixed riser pipe to the wellhead, and flaring off additional oil and gas on the *Q4000*, which is connected to the choke line. BP also is in the progress of connecting a floating riser pipe to third vessel, the *Helix Producer*, which will increase collection capacity to an estimated 53,000 barrels per day by bringing up additional oil up through the kill line—a redundancy measure also taken at the administration’s direction.

The graph below, produced by the Department of Energy, demonstrates the cumulative amount of oil recovered to date, combining the containment cap and the *Q4000*.



Progress Continues in Drilling Relief Wells

The drilling of relief wells continues and has not been interrupted by elevated sea states. The *Development Driller III* has drilled the first relief well to a depth of 17,780 feet below the Gulf surface. The *Development Driller II* has drilled the second relief well—a redundancy measure taken at the direction of the administration—to a depth of approximately 13,900 feet below the surface. BP continues the “ranging” process—which involves periodically withdrawing the drill pipe and sending an electrical signal down to determine how close they are getting to the wellbore.

Federal Agencies Meet with NAACP and Gulf State Officials on Hurricane Planning

Representatives from FEMA, the Coast Guard and the Environmental Protection Agency held a briefing in Mobile, Ala., on hurricane and natural disaster contingency planning with state emergency planners, the Red Cross and NAACP representatives from throughout the Gulf Coast.

32 Rehabilitated Brown Pelicans Released Back to the Wild

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) released 32 rehabilitated brown pelicans back to the wild at Fort DeSoto Park, near Tampa, Florida. 432 rehabilitated birds have been released to date.

Wildlife rescue and recovery crews continue to survey affected areas using hundreds of personnel and dozens of vessels, as well as numerous airboats and helicopters to protect Gulf Coast wildlife and habitats from the effects of the BP oil spill. On Tuesday, rescue and recovery teams responded to a total of 129 calls to the Wildlife Hotline reporting oiled or injured wildlife along the Gulf Coast. To report oiled wildlife, call (866) 557-1401.

Approved SBA Economic Injury Assistance Loans Top \$11 Million

SBA has approved 144 economic injury assistance loans to date, totaling more than \$11 million for small businesses in the Gulf Coast impacted by the BP oil spill. Additionally, the agency has granted deferments on 571 existing SBA disaster loans in the region, totaling more than \$3.3 million per month in payments. For information on assistance loans for affected businesses, visit the SBA's Web site at www.sba.gov/services/disasterassistance, call (800) 659-2955 (800-877-8339 for the hearing impaired), or email disastercustomerservice@sba.gov.

Administration Continues to Oversee BP's Claims Process

The administration will continue to hold the responsible parties accountable for repairing the damage, and repaying Americans who've suffered a financial loss as a result of the BP oil spill. To date, 98,596 claims have been opened, from which more than \$153.5 million have been disbursed. No claims have been denied to date. There are 950 claims adjusters on the ground. To file a claim, visit www.bp.com/claims or call BP's helpline at 1-800-440-0858. Those who have already pursued the BP claims process and are not satisfied with BP's resolution can call the Coast Guard at (800) 280-7118. Additional information about the BP claims process and all available avenues of assistance can be found at www.disasterassistance.gov.

By the Numbers to Date:

- The administration has authorized the deployment of 17,500 National Guard troops from Gulf Coast states to respond to this crisis; currently, 1,559 are active.
- More than 45,400 personnel are currently responding to protect the shoreline and wildlife and cleanup vital coastlines.
- More than 6,200 vessels are currently responding on site, including skimmers, tugs, barges, and recovery vessels to assist in containment and cleanup efforts—in addition to dozens of aircraft, remotely operated vehicles, and multiple mobile offshore drilling units.

- Approximately 3 million feet of containment boom and 5.46 million feet of sorbent boom have been deployed to contain the spill—and approximately 870,000 feet of containment boom and 2.3 million feet of sorbent boom are available.
- More than 28.6 million gallons of an oil-water mix have been recovered.
- Approximately 1.72 million gallons of total dispersant have been applied—1.07 million on the surface and 657,000 sub-sea. Approximately 400,000 gallons are available.
- 275 controlled burns have been conducted, efficiently removing a total of approximately 10 million gallons of oil from the open water in an effort to protect shoreline and wildlife. Because calculations on the volume of oil burned can take more than 48 hours, the reported total volume may not reflect the most recent controlled burns.
- 17 staging areas are in place to protect sensitive shorelines.
- Approximately 507 miles of Gulf Coast shoreline is currently oiled—approximately 290 miles in Louisiana, 69 miles in Mississippi, 62 miles in Alabama, and 86 miles in Florida. These numbers reflect a daily snapshot of shoreline currently experiencing impacts from oil so that planning and field operations can more quickly respond to new impacts; they do not include cumulative impacts to date, or shoreline that has already been cleared.
- Approximately 81,181 square miles of Gulf of Mexico federal waters remain closed to fishing in order to balance economic and public health concerns. More than 66 percent remains open. Details can be found at <http://sero.nmfs.noaa.gov/>.
- To date, the administration has leveraged assets and skills from numerous foreign countries and international organizations as part of this historic, all-hands-on-deck response, including Belgium, Canada, China, France, Germany, Japan, Kenya, Mexico, Netherlands, Norway, Qatar, Russia, Spain, Tunisia, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom, the United Nations' International Maritime Organization, the European Union's Monitoring and Information Centre, and the European Maritime Safety Agency.

TUESDAY, JULY 6

Admiral Allen Provides Operational Update on the BP Oil Spill Response

National Incident Commander Admiral Thad Allen provided a briefing to inform the American public and answer questions on the progress of the administration-wide response to the BP oil spill. He discussed the progress being made in connecting the *Helix Producer* to the floating riser pipe, NOAA's monitoring of weather in the Gulf of Mexico and its potential impacts on cleanup operations, and the status of plans to replace the current containment cap.

Federal and State Officials Develop a Partnership to Determine Safe Fishing Areas

As part of the ongoing efforts to ensure the safety of seafood coming from the Gulf, the Food and Drug Administration (FDA), National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), and state authorities have agreed upon a shared protocol that will be used by federal and state officials to determine when it is safe to-reopen waters for seafood harvesting. This protocol was announced by Vice President Biden during his visit to the Gulf Coast last week.

FDA Continues Its Inspection of Seafood Processors to Ensure Health and Safety

FDA continues to inspect primary seafood processors along the Gulf Coast to ensure compliance with existing controls to guard against chemical contaminants in the processing of seafood. The FDA has a toll-free number (888-INFO-FDA) for questions or concerns about seafood or to report any seafood suspected of being contaminated with oil.

Authorities Continue Their Safety Oversight to Protect Response Workers

In order to protect responders and workers, the National Institute of Environmental Sciences has developed two safety and awareness courses as well as a 40-hour training module on hazardous waste operations and emergency response (HAZWOPER). Nearly 50,000 individuals throughout the Gulf Coast region have completed the two-to-four hour safety and awareness courses and more than 1,000 people have finished the HAZWOPER training.

CDC's National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) is monitoring workers involved in the clean-up effort: identifying job duties and locations, training, and personal protective equipment used. This will be used to track worker health over time. So far information from approximately 27,000 workers has been entered into the NIOSH system.

BP Continues to Optimize Oil Recovery Rates; Prepares to Increase Collection Capacity

Under the direction of the federal government, BP continues to capture some oil and burn gas at the surface using its containment dome technique—collecting oil aboard the *Discoverer Enterprise*, which is linked by a fixed riser pipe to the wellhead, and flaring off additional oil and gas on the *Q4000*, which is connected to the choke line. BP also has begun connecting a floating riser pipe to third vessel, the *Helix Producer*, which will increase collection capacity to an estimated 53,000 barrels per day by bringing up additional oil up through the kill line—a redundancy measure also taken at the administration's direction.

Fish and Wildlife Continues Efforts to Recover and Rehabilitate Oiled Wildlife

Wildlife rescue and recovery crews continue to survey affected areas using hundreds of personnel and dozens of vessels, as well as numerous airboats and helicopters to protect Gulf Coast wildlife and habitats from the effects of the BP oil spill. On Monday, rescue and recovery teams responded to a total of 49 calls to the Wildlife Hotline reporting oiled or injured wildlife along the Gulf Coast. To report oiled wildlife, call (866) 557-1401.

To date, more than 1000 personnel from the Department of the Interior's Fish and Wildlife Service, National Park Service, U.S. Geological Survey and Bureau of Ocean Energy Management, Regulation and enforcement have been deployed as part of the response.

Approved SBA Economic Injury Assistance Loans Top \$10.9 Million

SBA has approved 142 economic injury assistance loans to date, totaling more than \$10.9 million for small businesses in the Gulf Coast impacted by the BP oil spill. Additionally, the

agency has granted deferments on 554 existing SBA disaster loans in the region, totaling more than \$3.1 million per month in payments. For information on assistance loans for affected businesses, visit the SBA's Web site at www.sba.gov/services/disasterassistance, call (800) 659-2955 (800-877-8339 for the hearing impaired), or email disastercustomerservice@sba.gov.

Administration Continues to Oversee BP's Claims Process

The administration will continue to hold the responsible parties accountable for repairing the damage, and repaying Americans who've suffered a financial loss as a result of the BP oil spill. To date, 96,302 claims have been opened, from which more than \$148.7 million have been disbursed. No claims have been denied to date. There are 950 claims adjusters on the ground. To file a claim, visit www.bp.com/claims or call BP's helpline at 1-800-440-0858. Those who have already pursued the BP claims process and are not satisfied with BP's resolution can call the Coast Guard at (800) 280-7118. Additional information about the BP claims process and all available avenues of assistance can be found at www.disasterassistance.gov.

By the Numbers to Date:

- The administration has authorized the deployment of 17,500 National Guard troops from Gulf Coast states to respond to this crisis; currently, 1,548 are active.
- More than 45,700 personnel are currently responding to protect the shoreline and wildlife and cleanup vital coastlines.
- More than 6,900 vessels are currently responding on site, including skimmers, tugs, barges, and recovery vessels to assist in containment and cleanup efforts—in addition to dozens of aircraft, remotely operated vehicles, and multiple mobile offshore drilling units.
- Approximately 2.97 million feet of containment boom and 5.39 million feet of sorbent boom have been deployed to contain the spill—and approximately 888,000 feet of containment boom and 2.4 million feet of sorbent boom are available.
- More than 28.6 million gallons of an oil-water mix have been recovered.
- Approximately 1.72 million gallons of total dispersant have been applied—1.07 million on the surface and 646,000 sub-sea. More than 412,000 gallons are available.
- 275 controlled burns have been conducted, efficiently removing a total of approximately 10 million gallons of oil from the open water in an effort to protect shoreline and wildlife. Because calculations on the volume of oil burned can take more than 48 hours, the reported total volume may not reflect the most recent controlled burns.
- 17 staging areas are in place to protect sensitive shorelines.
- Approximately 484 miles of Gulf Coast shoreline is currently oiled—approximately 287 miles in Louisiana, 71 miles in Mississippi, 62 miles in Alabama, and 86 miles in Florida. These numbers reflect a daily snapshot of shoreline currently experiencing impacts from oil so that planning and field operations can more quickly respond to new impacts; they do not include cumulative impacts to date, or shoreline that has already been cleared.
- Approximately 81,181 square miles of Gulf of Mexico federal waters remain closed to fishing in order to balance economic and public health concerns. More than 66 percent remains open. Details can be found at <http://sero.nmfs.noaa.gov/>.

- To date, the administration has leveraged assets and skills from numerous foreign countries and international organizations as part of this historic, all-hands-on-deck response, including Belgium, Canada, China, France, Germany, Japan, Kenya, Mexico, Netherlands, Norway, Qatar, Russia, Spain, United Kingdom, Tunisia the United Nations' International Maritime Organization, the European Union's Monitoring and Information Centre, and the European Maritime Safety Agency.

MONDAY, JULY 5

Crews Continue to Assess the Effects of Recent Weather on Response Operations; Skimming Operations Resume

Crews in Louisiana and along the Gulf Coast continue to repair boom and survey for additional oil deposits after heavy weather moved through the area last week. Heavy winds and waves have blown sand across beaches, burying oil and displacing boom. Normalized sea states have allowed skimming operations to resume. The number of skimming vessels involved in the response has increased more than fivefold in the past month, and more than 31.3 million gallons of an oil-water mix have been recovered through the use of skimmers to date.

BP Continues to Optimize Oil Recovery Rates; Prepares to Increase Collection Capacity

Under the direction of the federal government, BP continues to capture some oil and burn gas at the surface using its containment dome technique—collecting oil aboard the Discoverer Enterprise, which is linked by a fixed riser pipe to the wellhead, and flaring off additional oil and gas on the Q4000, which is connected to the choke line. BP also continues to put the necessary equipment in place to connect a third vessel, the Helix Producer, which will increase collection capacity to an estimated 53,000 barrels per day by bringing up additional oil up through the kill line—a redundancy measure also taken at the administration's direction.

Progress Continues in Drilling Relief Wells; Ranging Process Continues

The drilling of relief wells continues and has not been interrupted by elevated sea states. The Development Driller III has drilled the first relief well to a depth of more than 17,700 feet below the Gulf surface. The Development Driller II has drilled the second relief well—a redundancy measure taken at the direction of the administration—to a depth of approximately 13,900 feet below the surface. BP continues the “ranging” process—which involves periodically withdrawing the drill pipe and sending an electrical signal down to determine how close they are getting to the wellbore.

NOAA Expands Fishing Restriction in the Gulf; More than 66 Percent Remains Open

As a precautionary measure to ensure the safety of seafood from the Gulf of Mexico and protect consumers, NOAA has expanded the closed fishing area in the Gulf of Mexico to include portions of the oil slick moving beyond the area's current northwestern boundary, off the

Louisiana federal-state waterline. This boundary was moved westward off Vermilion Bay. The closed area now represents 81,181 square miles—approximately 33.5 percent—of federal waters in the Gulf of Mexico. This closure does not apply to any state waters. This leaves more than 66 percent of Gulf federal waters available for fishing. Details can be found at <http://sero.nmfs.noaa.gov/>.

Officials Relocate Fort Jackson Bird Rehabilitation Center to a More Secure Area

In an effort to minimize harm and stress on animals in rehabilitation during the storm season, the Unified Command announced that the Fort Jackson Bird Rehabilitation Center will be moved to a more secure, fit-for-purpose building—to a facility that is less likely to be subject to a hurricane evacuation.

The current building in Buras, La., facility has more than met the needs of the response efforts and the wildlife that has come into its care, including contributing to the release of 400 rehabilitated brown pelicans back to the wild. However, its location along the coast in a phase one hurricane evacuation zone makes it subject to evacuation and damage from tropical storms or hurricanes. The new facility is located in Hammond, La., north of the three phase hurricane evacuation zones.

Wildlife rescue and recovery crews continue to survey affected areas for oiled wildlife in Louisiana, Mississippi, Alabama and Florida. To date, more than 1000 personnel from the Department of the Interior's Fish and Wildlife Service, National Park Service, U.S. Geological Survey and Bureau of Ocean Energy Management, Regulation and Enforcement have been deployed as part of the response.

Administration Continues to Oversee BP's Claims Process

The administration will continue to hold the responsible parties accountable for repairing the damage and repaying Americans who've suffered a financial loss as a result of the BP oil spill. To date, 95,387 claims have been opened, from which more than \$147.2 million have been disbursed. No claims have been denied to date. There are 951 claims adjusters on the ground. To file a claim, visit www.bp.com/claims or call BP's helpline at 1-800-440-0858. Those who have already pursued the BP claims process and are not satisfied with BP's resolution can call the Coast Guard at (800) 280-7118. Additional information about the BP claims process and all available avenues of assistance can be found at www.disasterassistance.gov.

By the Numbers to Date:

- The administration has authorized the deployment of 17,500 National Guard troops from Gulf Coast states to respond to this crisis; currently, 1,577 are active.
- More than 45,000 personnel are currently responding to protect the shoreline and wildlife and cleanup vital coastlines.
- More than 7,000 vessels are currently responding on site, including skimmers, tugs, barges, and recovery vessels to assist in containment and cleanup efforts—in addition to

dozens of aircraft, remotely operated vehicles, and multiple mobile offshore drilling units.

- Approximately 2.96 million feet of containment boom and 5.3 million feet of sorbent boom have been deployed to contain the spill—and approximately 888,000 feet of containment boom and 2.8 million feet of sorbent boom are available.
- More than 31.3 million gallons of an oil-water mix have been recovered.
- Approximately 1.7 million gallons of total dispersants have been applied—1.07 million on the surface and 634,000 sub-sea. More than 250,000 gallons are available.
- 275 controlled burns have been conducted, efficiently removing a total of approximately 10 million gallons of oil from the open water in an effort to protect shoreline and wildlife. Because calculations on the volume of oil burned can take more than 48 hours, the reported total volume may not reflect the most recent controlled burns.
- 17 staging areas are in place to protect sensitive shorelines.
- Approximately 492 miles of Gulf Coast shoreline is currently oiled—approximately 275 miles in Louisiana, 70 miles in Mississippi, 61 miles in Alabama, and 86 miles in Florida. These numbers reflect a daily snapshot of shoreline currently experiencing impacts from oil so that planning and field operations can more quickly respond to new impacts; they do not include cumulative impacts to date, or shoreline that has already been cleared.
- Approximately 81,181 square miles of Gulf of Mexico federal waters remain closed to fishing in order to balance economic and public health concerns. More than 66 percent remains open. Details can be found at <http://sero.nmfs.noaa.gov/>.
- To date, the administration has leveraged assets and skills from numerous foreign countries and international organizations as part of this historic, all-hands-on-deck response, including Belgium, Canada, China, France, Germany, Japan, Kenya, Mexico, Netherlands, Norway, Qatar, Russia, Spain, United Kingdom, Tunisia the United Nations' International Maritime Organization and the European Union's Monitoring and Information Centre.

SUNDAY, JULY 4

Crews Assess the Effects of Recent Weather on Response Operations

Crews in Louisiana and along the Gulf Coast are checking deployed boom and surveying for additional oil deposits after heavy weather moved through the area. Heavy winds and waves have blown sand across beaches, burying oil and boom. Reports of damaged and stranded boom have been received from Plaquemines, Terrebonne, Iberia, Jefferson and Lafourche parishes. Crews are beginning a systematic effort to repair any boom that has been damaged.

BP Continues to Optimize Oil Recovery Rates from its Leaking Well

Under the direction of the federal government, BP continues to capture some oil and burn gas at the surface using its containment dome technique—collecting oil aboard the *Discoverer Enterprise*, which is linked by a fixed riser pipe to the wellhead, and flaring off additional oil and gas on the *Q4000*, which is connected to the choke line. The collection capacity is expected to

increase to an estimated 53,000 barrels per day once the third vessel, the *Helix Producer*, begins bringing additional oil up through the kill line—a redundancy measure also taken at the administration's direction.

Progress Continues in Drilling Relief Wells; Ranging Process Continues

The drilling of relief wells continues and has not been interrupted by elevated sea states. The *Development Driller III* has drilled the first relief well to a depth of approximately 17,400 feet below the Gulf surface. The *Development Driller II* has drilled the second relief well—a redundancy measure taken at the direction of the administration—to a depth of more than 13,800 feet below the surface. BP continues the “ranging” process—which involves periodically withdrawing the drill pipe and sending an electrical signal down to determine how close they are getting to the wellbore.

By the Numbers to Date:

- The administration has authorized the deployment of 17,500 National Guard troops from Gulf Coast states to respond to this crisis; currently, 1,577 are active.
- More than 44,500 personnel are currently responding to protect the shoreline and wildlife and cleanup vital coastlines.
- More than 7,000 vessels are currently responding on site, including skimmers, tugs, barges, and recovery vessels to assist in containment and cleanup efforts—in addition to dozens of aircraft, remotely operated vehicles, and multiple mobile offshore drilling units.
- Approximately 2.9 million feet of containment boom and 5.09 million feet of sorbent boom have been deployed to contain the spill—and approximately 935,000 feet of containment boom and 2.36 million feet of sorbent boom are available.
- More than 28.2 million gallons of an oil-water mix have been recovered.
- Approximately 1.68 million gallons of total dispersant have been applied—1.06 million on the surface and 623,000 sub-sea. More than 451,000 gallons are available.
- 275 controlled burns have been conducted, efficiently removing a total of approximately 10 million gallons of oil from the open water in an effort to protect shoreline and wildlife. Because calculations on the volume of oil burned can take more than 48 hours, the reported total volume may not reflect the most recent controlled burns.
- 17 staging areas are in place to protect sensitive shorelines.
- Approximately 484 miles of Gulf Coast shoreline is currently oiled—approximately 264 miles in Louisiana, 79 miles in Mississippi, 59 miles in Alabama, and 82 miles in Florida. These numbers reflect a daily snapshot of shoreline currently experiencing impacts from oil so that planning and field operations can more quickly respond to new impacts; they do not include cumulative impacts to date, or shoreline that has already been cleared.
- Approximately 80,228 square miles of Gulf of Mexico federal waters remain closed to fishing in order to balance economic and public health concerns. More than 66 percent remains open. Details can be found at <http://sero.nmfs.noaa.gov/>.
- To date, the administration has leveraged assets and skills from numerous foreign countries and international organizations as part of this historic, all-hands-on-deck response, including Belgium, Canada, China, France, Germany, Japan, Kenya, Mexico,

Netherlands, Norway, Qatar, Russia, Spain, United Kingdom, Tunisia the United Nations' International Maritime Organization and the European Union's Monitoring and Information Centre.

SATURDAY, JULY 3

Administrator Jackson Continues Her Sixth Visit to the Gulf Coast

In her sixth visit to the Gulf Coast, Environmental Protection Agency Administrator Lisa Jackson today traveled to Florida to inspect the ongoing response to the BP oil spill. She visited Pensacola, Fla., to oversee beach cleanup operations and later met with EPA scientists in Gulf Breeze, Fla., to be briefed on ongoing dispersant testing. She also attended a meeting with local elected leaders, public health officials and other community representatives at the EPA's Gulf Breeze Lab—to address concerns about the short- and long-term environmental impacts of the spill.

The EPA continues to monitor air, water and sediment quality in the Gulf of Mexico and test the impacts of chemical dispersants. For more information on the testing results, click [here](#).

Shoreline Cleanup Operations Continue Along Gulf Coast

While some offshore mitigation efforts such as skimming and controlled burns have been restricted or halted due to elevated sea states from Hurricane Alex, shoreline cleanup operations continue in places where oil has come ashore.

Shoreline cleanup assessment teams monitor beaches and marshlands to identify impacted shoreline and determine the appropriate technique to remove the oil—taking into account various factors, such as the amount oil, its viscosity, and the environmental sensitivity of the impacted area. In some cases, the oil can be removed mechanically; at other times, teams of workers are the best method. In certain environmentally sensitive areas, cleanup operations can do more harm than good.

BP Continues to Optimize Oil Recovery Rates from its Leaking Well

Under the direction of the federal government, BP continues to capture some oil and burn gas at the surface using its containment dome technique—collecting oil aboard the *Discoverer Enterprise*, which is linked by a fixed riser pipe to the wellhead, and flaring off additional oil and gas on the *Q4000*, which is connected to the choke line. The collection capacity is expected to increase to an estimated 53,000 barrels per day once the third vessel, the *Helix Producer*, begins bringing additional oil up through the kill line—a redundancy measure also taken at the administration's direction.

Progress Continues in Drilling Relief Wells; Ranging Process Continues

The drilling of relief wells continues and has not been interrupted by elevated sea states. The *Development Driller III* has drilled the first relief well to a depth of approximately 17,400 feet below the Gulf surface. The *Development Driller II* has drilled the second relief well—a redundancy measure taken at the direction of the administration—to a depth of more than 13,800 feet below the surface. BP continues the “ranging” process—which involves periodically withdrawing the drill pipe and sending an electrical signal down to determine how close they are getting to the wellbore.

By the Numbers to Date:

- The administration has authorized the deployment of 17,500 National Guard troops from Gulf Coast states to respond to this crisis; currently, 1,577 are active.
- Approximately 44,300 personnel are currently responding to protect the shoreline and wildlife and cleanup vital coastlines.
- More than 6,900 vessels are currently responding on site, including skimmers, tugs, barges, and recovery vessels to assist in containment and cleanup efforts—in addition to dozens of aircraft, remotely operated vehicles, and multiple mobile offshore drilling units.
- Approximately 2.87 million feet of containment boom and 5.09 million feet of sorbent boom have been deployed to contain the spill—and approximately 863,000 feet of containment boom and 2.36 million feet of sorbent boom are available.
- More than 28.2 million gallons of an oil-water mix have been recovered.
- Approximately 1.67 million gallons of total dispersant have been applied—1.06 million on the surface and 612,000 sub-sea. More than 451,000 gallons are available.
- 275 controlled burns have been conducted, efficiently removing a total of approximately 10 million gallons of oil from the open water in an effort to protect shoreline and wildlife. Because calculations on the volume of oil burned can take more than 48 hours, the reported total volume may not reflect the most recent controlled burns.
- 17 staging areas are in place to protect sensitive shorelines.
- Approximately 444 miles of Gulf Coast shoreline is currently oiled—approximately 258 miles in Louisiana, 62 miles in Mississippi, 51 miles in Alabama, and 73 miles in Florida. These numbers reflect a daily snapshot of shoreline currently experiencing impacts from oil so that planning and field operations can more quickly respond to new impacts; they do not include cumulative impacts to date, or shoreline that has already been cleared.
- Approximately 80,228 square miles of Gulf of Mexico federal waters remain closed to fishing in order to balance economic and public health concerns. More than 66 percent remains open. Details can be found at <http://sero.nmfs.noaa.gov/>.
- To date, the administration has leveraged assets and skills from numerous foreign countries and international organizations as part of this historic, all-hands-on-deck response, including Belgium, Canada, China, France, Germany, Japan, Kenya, Mexico, Netherlands, Norway, Qatar, Russia, Spain, United Kingdom, Tunisia the United Nations’ International Maritime Organization and the European Union’s Monitoring and Information Centre.

FRIDAY, JULY 2

Admiral Allen Provides Operational Update on the BP Oil Spill Response

National Incident Commander Admiral Thad Allen provided a briefing to inform the American public and answer questions on the progress of the administration-wide response to the BP oil spill. A transcript is available [here](#).

Skimming Capabilities Reach Fivefold Increase Since Early June

At the beginning of June, Admiral Allen announced efforts to bring more skimmers to respond to the BP oil spill. Since then, skimming capability in the Gulf has increased more than fivefold—from approximately 100 large skimmers to 550 skimming vessels of various sizes working to collect oil in all parts of the Gulf of Mexico as of today. To date, 28.2 million gallons of an oil-water mix has been skimmed from the Gulf surface.

The skimming surge has come throughout the month of June as an adaptation to the changing characteristics of the spill, which no longer presents itself as a single slick, but a massive collection of smaller patches of oil. Additional skimmers were needed and have been deployed to work those small patches at various depths and distances from the coast. The Unified Command will continue ramping up skimmer capability throughout the coming weeks, with a baseline target of more than 750 skimmers collecting oil in Gulf waters by mid July, and more by the beginning of August. To view a fact sheet on skimmers, click [here](#).

NOAA Models Long-Term Oil Threat to Gulf and East Coast Shoreline

As part of the ongoing effort to use the state-of-the-art technology and scientific tools in response to aid response operations, NOAA is using modeling of historical wind and ocean currents to project the likelihood that surface oil from the Deepwater Horizon/BP oil spill will impact additional U.S. coastline.

The modeling uses the high end of the flow rate estimate, and inputs the estimated amount of oil being skimmed, burned, and collected through the containment device—and accounts for the natural process of oil weathering. For more information, click [here](#).

Rear Admiral Zukunft Provides Update on Weather Impacts

Rear Admiral Paul Zukunft provided a briefing to inform Gulf Coast residents and answer questions about the impact weather is having on the ongoing response to the BP oil spill.

Because of elevated sea states, no skimming or burning has been conducted for two days. In addition, the weather displaced boom and made it unsafe to fly. Crews are standing by to resume skimming operations and survey inland waterways that may have seen impacts due to a storm surge. Shoreline cleanup operations continue with limited weather interruption. A transcript is available [here](#).

BP Continues to Optimize Oil Recovery Rates from its Leaking Well

Under the direction of the federal government, BP continues to capture some oil and burn gas at the surface using its containment dome technique—collecting oil aboard the *Discoverer Enterprise*, which is linked by a fixed riser pipe to the wellhead, and flaring off additional oil and gas on the *Q4000*, which is connected to the choke line. The collection capacity is expected to increase to an estimated 53,000 barrels per day once the third vessel, the *Helix Producer*, is connected to the floating riser pipe—a redundancy measure also taken at the administration's direction.

The Unified Command Continues to Build a Sea Turtle Observer Program

In addition to cleaning up and rehabilitating oiled wildlife, the Unified Command continues to build a sea turtle observer program for all on-water oil clean-up operations. The command's Wildlife Branch is working now to determine when, where, and how observers can be best positioned to reduce risks posed to sea turtles by oil containment and clean-up activities—such as controlled burn and skimmer fleet operations—and will begin to train additional sea turtle observers this weekend.

Throughout the spill, federal and state biologists have been surveying for and rescuing oiled sea turtles offshore using small vessels carrying trained sea turtle collection teams. To date, more than 100 sea turtles have been collected in these directed surveys, and more than 90 percent are alive at rehabilitation facilities. For more information, click [here](#).

Approved SBA Economic Injury Assistance Loans Top \$8.5 Million

SBA has approved 133 economic injury assistance loans to date, totaling more than \$9.2 million for small businesses in the Gulf Coast impacted by the BP oil spill. Additionally, the agency has granted deferments on 554 existing SBA disaster loans in the region, totaling more than \$3.1 million per month in payments. For information on assistance loans for affected businesses, visit the SBA's Web site at www.sba.gov/services/disasterassistance, call (800) 659-2955 (800-877-8339 for the hearing impaired), or email disastercustomerservice@sba.gov.

Administration Continues to Oversee BP's Claims Process

The administration will continue to hold the responsible parties accountable for repairing the damage, and repaying Americans who've suffered a financial loss as a result of the BP oil spill. To date, 92,038 claims have been opened, from which more than \$143.9 million have been disbursed. No claims have been denied to date. There are 950 claims adjusters on the ground. To file a claim, visit www.bp.com/claims or call BP's helpline at 1-800-440-0858. Those who have already pursued the BP claims process and are not satisfied with BP's resolution can call the Coast Guard at (800) 280-7118. Additional information about the BP claims process and all available avenues of assistance can be found at www.disasterassistance.gov.

By the Numbers to Date:

- The administration has authorized the deployment of 17,500 National Guard troops from Gulf Coast states to respond to this crisis; currently, 1,622 are active.
- Approximately 43,100 personnel are currently responding to protect the shoreline and wildlife and cleanup vital coastlines.
- More than 6,900 vessels are currently responding on site, including skimmers, tugs, barges, and recovery vessels to assist in containment and cleanup efforts—in addition to dozens of aircraft, remotely operated vehicles, and multiple mobile offshore drilling units.
- Approximately 2.8 million feet of containment boom and 4.95 million feet of sorbent boom have been deployed to contain the spill—and approximately 811,000 feet of containment boom and 2.3 million feet of sorbent boom are available.
- More than 28.2 million gallons of an oil-water mix have been recovered.
- Approximately 1.65 million gallons of total dispersant have been applied—1.05 million on the surface and 601,000 sub-sea. More than 465,000 gallons are available.
- 275 controlled burns have been conducted, efficiently removing a total of approximately 10 million gallons of oil from the open water in an effort to protect shoreline and wildlife. Because calculations on the volume of oil burned can take more than 48 hours, the reported total volume may not reflect the most recent controlled burns.
- 17 staging areas are in place to protect sensitive shorelines.
- Approximately 452 miles of Gulf Coast shoreline is currently oiled—approximately 268 miles in Louisiana, 61 miles in Mississippi, 52 miles in Alabama, and 71 miles in Florida. These numbers reflect a daily snapshot of shoreline currently experiencing impacts from oil so that planning and field operations can more quickly respond to new impacts; they do not include cumulative impacts to date, or shoreline that has already been cleared.
- Approximately 80,228 square miles of Gulf of Mexico federal waters remain closed to fishing in order to balance economic and public health concerns. More than 66 percent remains open. Details can be found at <http://sero.nmfs.noaa.gov/>.
- To date, the administration has leveraged assets and skills from numerous foreign countries and international organizations as part of this historic, all-hands-on-deck response, including Canada, France, Germany, Japan, Mexico, Netherlands, Norway, the United Nations' International Maritime Organization and the European Union's Monitoring and Information Centre.

THURSDAY, JULY 1

The President Receives a Briefing From Senior Officials on the BP Oil Spill Response

President Obama and Vice President Biden received a briefing today from National Incident Commander Admiral Thad Allen, DHS Secretary Janet Napolitano, Energy Secretary Steven Chu, Interior Secretary Ken Salazar, EPA Administrator Lisa Jackson, NOAA Administrator Jane Lubchenco, Assistant to the President for Energy and Climate Change Carol Browner, and other senior administration officials on the BP oil spill.

Secretary Napolitano and Admiral Allen provided a situational update and an overview of available resources responding to the crises. The administration's science team provided an update on oil containment efforts and plans to increase the capacity to capture more oil and eventually kill the well. The briefing also covered hurricane projections and their potential impacts on the response, the ongoing efforts to ensure seafood safety and the use of dispersants, and environmental impacts on wildlife, National Parks and other sensitive coastal shorelines and habitat.

Admiral Allen and Robert Gibbs Provide Operational Update on the BP Oil Spill Response

National Incident Commander Admiral Thad Allen joined White House Press Secretary Robert Gibbs at his daily briefing to inform the American public and answer questions on the progress of the administration-wide response to the BP oil spill. A transcript is available [here](#).

The Coast Guard and EPA Send a Directive to BP on Oil Spill Waste Management

The Coast Guard and the EPA issued a directive to BP on how the company should manage recovered oil, contaminated materials and liquid and solid wastes recovered in cleanup operations from the BP oil spill—a measure taken in consultation with the states to hold BP accountable for the implementation of the approved waste management plans. Under the directive, EPA will begin sampling the waste, in addition to sampling already being done by BP, to help verify that the waste is being properly managed. For more information, click [here](#).

78 Brown Pelicans Are Released Back to the Wild; 400 Birds Rehabilitated to Date

In the largest bird release since the BP oil spill began, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) released 78 rehabilitated brown pelicans back to the wild at the Brunswick Coast Guard Station in Georgia. 400 rehabilitated birds have been released to date.

Wildlife rescue and recovery crews—including nearly 600 FWS personnel—continue to survey affected areas using vessels, airboats and helicopters. These missions are conducted routinely as well as under guidance of tips received via the Wildlife Hotline. To report oiled wildlife, call (866) 557-1401.

NOAA Ship Departs to Research the Effects of the Oil Spill on Endangered Whales

As part of continued efforts to engage the brightest scientific minds from across the federal government, academia and the private sector in the response to the BP oil spill, the NOAA ship *Gordon Gunter* departed today to continue its mission to evaluate the effects of the spill on whales and dolphins in the Gulf of Mexico, including the endangered sperm whale.

NOAA scientists will partner with leading researchers from Cornell University, Oregon State University, and Scripps Institution of Oceanography, and monitor the distributions and movements of whales over the next several months. The ship will also be measuring water characteristics and using acoustics to measure the amount of plankton, fish, and squid, the

primary food for whales. For more information on NOAA vessels conducting scientific research, click [here](#).

FWS, NOAA, FedEx and National Fish and Wildlife Foundation Partner to Protect Sea Turtle Nests and Eggs

In a unique public-private partnership that demonstrates the unprecedented resources and coordination being brought to bear in response to the BP oil spill, FedEx Corporation is joining efforts to protect sea turtle nests and eggs in the Gulf of Mexico from potential oil spill impacts—donating resources and the expertise of logistics specialists to transport hundreds of nests containing thousands of eggs to Florida’s Atlantic Coast.

The company is coordinating efforts with scientists from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, NOAA, state and local agencies, and the non-profit National Fish and Wildlife Foundation.

Mobile and Florida Incident Commands Provide Local Operational Updates

Coast Guard Commander Joe Boudrow, Deputy Incident Commander for Florida, and Coast Guard Commander Charles Diorio of the Mobile Incident Command provided a briefing to inform local residents and answer questions about the ongoing response to the BP oil spill.

Boudrow and Diorio reported on the impact of weather on operations (elevated sea states have halted offshore skimming efforts in recent days); provided specifics on the amount of skimmers, boom and other resources deployed in their respective regions; and explained the various shoreline cleanup tactics that are used for different types of oil impacts. They also discussed oversight efforts to ensure that BP is giving local residents first priority when hiring for the Vessels of Opportunity program

BP Continues to Optimize Oil Recovery Rates from its Leaking Well

Under the direction of the federal government, BP continues to capture some oil and burn gas at the surface using its containment dome technique—collecting oil aboard the *Discoverer Enterprise*, which is linked by a fixed riser pipe to the wellhead, and flaring off additional oil and gas on the *Q4000*, which is connected to the choke line. The collection capacity is expected to increase to an estimated 53,000 barrels per day once the third vessel, the *Helix Producer*, is connected to the floating riser pipe—a redundancy measure also taken at the administration’s direction.

Progress Continues in Drilling Relief Wells; Ranging Process Continues

The *Development Driller III* has drilled the first relief well to a depth of approximately 17,000 feet below the Gulf surface. The *Development Driller II* has drilled the second relief well—a redundancy measure taken at the direction of the administration—to a depth of more than 12,500 feet below the surface. BP continues the “ranging” process—which involves periodically withdrawing the drill pipe and sending an electrical signal down to determine how close they are getting to the wellbore.

Approved SBA Economic Injury Assistance Loans Top \$8.5 Million

SBA has approved 129 economic injury assistance loans to date, totaling more than \$8.5 million for small businesses in the Gulf Coast impacted by the BP oil spill. Additionally, the agency has granted deferments on 541 existing SBA disaster loans in the region, totaling more than \$2.9 million per month in payments. For information on assistance loans for affected businesses, visit the SBA's Web site at www.sba.gov/services/disasterassistance, call (800) 659-2955 (800-877-8339 for the hearing impaired), or email disastercustomerservice@sba.gov.

Administration Continues to Oversee BP's Claims Process

The administration will continue to hold the responsible parties accountable for repairing the damage, and repaying Americans who've suffered a financial loss as a result of the BP oil spill. To date, 89,916 claims have been opened, from which more than \$137.8 million have been disbursed. No claims have been denied to date. There are 951 claims adjusters on the ground. To file a claim, visit www.bp.com/claims or call BP's helpline at 1-800-440-0858. Those who have already pursued the BP claims process and are not satisfied with BP's resolution can call the Coast Guard at (800) 280-7118. Additional information about the BP claims process and all available avenues of assistance can be found at www.disasterassistance.gov.

By the Numbers to Date:

- The administration has authorized the deployment of 17,500 National Guard troops from Gulf Coast states to respond to this crisis; currently, 1,573 are active.
- Approximately 42,700 personnel are currently responding to protect the shoreline and wildlife and cleanup vital coastlines.
- More than 7,000 vessels are currently responding on site, including skimmers, tugs, barges, and recovery vessels to assist in containment and cleanup efforts—in addition to dozens of aircraft, remotely operated vehicles, and multiple mobile offshore drilling units.
- Approximately 2.78 million feet of containment boom and 4.94 million feet of sorbent boom have been deployed to contain the spill—and approximately 813,000 feet of containment boom and 2.14 million feet of sorbent boom are available.
- More than 28.2 million gallons of an oil-water mix have been recovered.
- Approximately 1.61 million gallons of total dispersant have been applied—1.03 million on the surface and 590,000 sub-sea. More than 506,000 gallons are available.
- 275 controlled burns have been conducted, efficiently removing a total of approximately 10 million gallons of oil from the open water in an effort to protect shoreline and wildlife. Because calculations on the volume of oil burned can take more than 48 hours, the reported total volume may not reflect the most recent controlled burns.
- 17 staging areas are in place to protect sensitive shorelines.
- Approximately 428 miles of Gulf Coast shoreline is currently oiled—approximately 259 miles in Louisiana, 52 miles in Mississippi, 46 miles in Alabama, and 71 miles in Florida. These numbers reflect a daily snapshot of shoreline currently experiencing impacts from oil so that planning and field operations can more quickly respond to new impacts; they do not include cumulative impacts to date, or shoreline that has already been cleared.

- Approximately 80,228 square miles of Gulf of Mexico federal waters remain closed to fishing in order to balance economic and public health concerns. More than 66 percent remains open. Details can be found at <http://sero.nmfs.noaa.gov/>.
- To date, the administration has leveraged assets and skills from numerous foreign countries and international organizations as part of this historic, all-hands-on-deck response, including Canada, France, Germany, Japan, Mexico, Netherlands, Norway, the United Nations' International Maritime Organization and the European Union's Monitoring and Information Centre.

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 30

The President Outlines Long-Term Coordination Plan for Gulf Coast Restoration

President Obama sent a memorandum to the heads of Executive Departments and Agencies regarding the Long-Term Gulf Coast Restoration Support Plan—outlining ways in which Navy Secretary Ray Mabus will coordinate with leaders across the administration and the White House, along with states, local communities, tribes, people whose livelihoods depend on the Gulf, businesses, conservationists, scientists and others to create a plan of federal support for the long-term economic and environmental restoration of the Gulf Coast region. The memorandum is available [here](#).

Senior Administration Officials and Scientists Meet With BP on Oil Containment Efforts

As part of ongoing efforts to engage the brightest minds from across the federal government, academia and the private sector in the response to the BP oil spill, senior administration officials including Secretary Salazar, Secretary Chu, Secretary Napolitano, Carol Browner and Admiral Thad Allen, met with members of the federal science team and BP officials to discuss the progress of additional well containment options and the status of relief well drilling efforts. The meeting was held at the Department of the Interior. Senior government officials will meet with President Obama tomorrow to review the oil spill situation and discuss plans moving forward.

Admiral Allen Provides Operational Update on the BP Oil Spill Response

National Incident Commander Admiral Thad Allen provided a briefing to inform the American public and answer questions on the progress of the administration-wide response to the BP oil spill. A transcript is available [here](#).

Rear Admiral Zukunft Provides Update on the Effects of Current Weather

Coast Guard Rear Adm. Paul Zukunft provided an update on the effects of severe weather on response efforts. Because of elevated sea states, response crews have not been able to conduct skimming or controlled burn operations; increased wave heights have caused boom to break apart in some areas. Sea states have also delayed the connection of the third vessel, the *Helix Producer*, to the floating riser pipe—which will bring collection capacity up to 53,000 barrels a

day. Storm surges could cause oil to be pushed further into inland areas. The Coast Guard is monitoring the flow of oil and is prepared to deploy additional resources if inland areas are impacted. Weather has not had any impact on the drilling of relief wells.

EPA Releases First Round of Toxicity Testing Data for Eight Oil Dispersants

The Environmental Protection Agency today released peer reviewed results from the first round of its own independent toxicity testing on eight oil dispersants. EPA conducted testing to ensure that decisions about ongoing dispersant use in the Gulf of Mexico continue to be grounded in the best available science. Additional testing is needed to further inform the use of dispersants. For more information, click [here](#).

NOAA Adds Two Ships to Fleet of Scientific Research Vessels

A NOAA research ship and a university-owned vessel are conducting two complementary studies to gather data on the Loop Current and area ecosystems in response to the BP oil spill. NOAA Ship *Nancy Foster*—one of six NOAA-owned ships supporting the oil spill response effort—began a two-week survey in the eastern Gulf of Mexico and the Florida Straits.

The *R/V Savannah*, operated by the Skidaway Institute of Oceanography in Savannah, Ga., is sailing through the Florida Keys and western Florida shelf as part of a long-term bimonthly sampling effort for NOAA's South Florida Ecosystem Restoration Program that has been modified to collect samples to check for the presence of oil in the region.

Labor Department Announces \$27 Million to Aid Workers Affected by the Oil Spill

The Department of Labor today announced a total of \$27 million in National Emergency Grant awards to Gulf Coast states to assist workers who have been displaced as a result of the BP oil spill—for job placement, skills training and career counseling. The funds are being awarded to workforce agencies in Alabama, Florida, Louisiana, and Mississippi—states experiencing economic hardship as a result of wage decline and job loss in the shrimping, fishing, hospitality and tourism industries.

BP Continues to Optimize Oil Recovery Rates from its Leaking Well

Under the direction of the federal government, BP continues to capture some oil and burn gas at the surface using its containment dome technique—collecting oil aboard the *Discoverer Enterprise*, which is linked by a fixed riser pipe to the wellhead, and flaring off additional oil and gas on the *Q4000*, which is connected to the choke line. The collection capacity is expected to increase to an estimated 53,000 barrels once the third vessel, the *Helix Producer*, is connected to the floating riser pipe—a redundancy measure also taken at the administration's direction.

Progress Continues in Drilling Relief Wells; Ranging Process Continues

The *Development Driller III* has drilled the first relief well to a depth of approximately 16,900 feet below the surface. The *Development Driller II* has drilled the second relief well—a

redundancy measure taken at the direction of the administration—to a depth of more than 12,000 feet below the Gulf surface. BP continues the “ranging” process—which involves periodically withdrawing the drill pipe and sending an electrical signal down to determine how close they are getting to the wellbore.

Approved SBA Economic Injury Assistance Loans Top \$8.5 Million

SBA has approved 128 economic injury assistance loans to date, totaling more than \$8.5 million for small businesses in the Gulf Coast impacted by the BP oil spill. Additionally, the agency has granted deferments on 531 existing SBA disaster loans in the region, totaling more than \$2.6 million per month in payments. For information on assistance loans for affected businesses, visit the SBA’s Web site at www.sba.gov/services/disasterassistance, call (800) 659-2955 (800-877-8339 for the hearing impaired), or email disastercustomerservice@sba.gov.

Administration Continues to Oversee BP’s Claims Process

The administration will continue to hold the responsible parties accountable for repairing the damage, and repaying Americans who’ve suffered a financial loss as a result of the BP oil spill. To date, 87,416 claims have been opened, from which more than \$132.3 million have been disbursed. No claims have been denied to date. There are 952 claims adjusters on the ground. To file a claim, visit www.bp.com/claims or call BP’s helpline at 1-800-440-0858. Those who have already pursued the BP claims process and are not satisfied with BP’s resolution can call the Coast Guard at (800) 280-7118. Additional information about the BP claims process and all available avenues of assistance can be found at www.disasterassistance.gov.

By the Numbers to Date:

- The administration has authorized the deployment of 17,500 National Guard troops from Gulf Coast states to respond to this crisis; currently, 1,605 are active.
- Approximately 42,700 personnel are currently responding to protect the shoreline and wildlife and cleanup vital coastlines.
- More than 6,800 vessels are currently responding on site, including skimmers, tugs, barges, and recovery vessels to assist in containment and cleanup efforts—in addition to dozens of aircraft, remotely operated vehicles, and multiple mobile offshore drilling units.
- Approximately 2.76 million feet of containment boom and 4.92 million feet of sorbent boom have been deployed to contain the spill—and approximately 856,000 feet of containment boom and 2.04 million feet of sorbent boom are available.
- More than 28.2 million gallons of an oil-water mix have been recovered.
- Approximately 1.61 million gallons of total dispersant have been applied—1.03 million on the surface and 577,000 sub-sea. More than 504,000 gallons are available.
- 275 controlled burns have been conducted, efficiently removing a total of approximately 10 million gallons of oil from the open water in an effort to protect shoreline and wildlife. Because calculations on the volume of oil burned can take more than 48 hours, the reported total volume may not reflect the most recent controlled burns.
- 17 staging areas are in place to protect sensitive shorelines.

- Approximately 423 miles of Gulf Coast shoreline is currently oiled—approximately 259 miles in Louisiana, 48 miles in Mississippi, 47 miles in Alabama, and 69 miles in Florida. These numbers reflect a daily snapshot of shoreline currently experiencing impacts from oil so that planning and field operations can more quickly respond to new impacts; they do not include cumulative impacts to date, or shoreline that has already been cleared.
- Approximately 80,228 square miles of Gulf of Mexico federal waters remain closed to fishing in order to balance economic and public health concerns. More than 66 percent remains open. Details can be found at <http://sero.nmfs.noaa.gov/>.
- To date, the administration has leveraged assets and skills from numerous foreign countries and international organizations as part of this historic, all-hands-on-deck response, including Canada, France, Germany, Japan, Mexico, Netherlands, Norway, the United Nations’ International Maritime Organization and the European Union's Monitoring and Information Centre.

TUESDAY, JUNE 29

Vice President Biden Travels to Gulf Coast to Assess Response Efforts

Vice President Joe Biden visited New Orleans and Pensacola, Fla., to survey the response efforts, visit with Gulf Coast residents impacted by the spill, and meet with area officials.

Biden visited the Unified Area Command to receive a briefing on response efforts and tour the facility. He was joined by National Incident Commander Admiral Thad Allen, Navy Secretary Ray Mabus, NOAA Administrator Dr. Jane Lubchenco, Federal On-Scene Coordinator Rear Admiral James Watson, Louisiana Governor Bobby Jindal and Congressman Anh “Joseph” Cao.

The Vice President also made a stop at Pomes Seafood, an eastern New Orleans seafood wholesaler, where he met with Gulf Coast residents impacted by the spill. Biden then traveled to Florida and visited the Naval Air Station Pensacola.

Secretary Salazar and Director Bromwich Hold Fifth Meeting with Oil and Gas Industry

Interior Secretary Ken Salazar and Michael Bromwich, Director of the Bureau of Ocean Energy Management, Regulation and Enforcement, yesterday met with officials from oil and gas companies to discuss issues relating to drilling on the Outer Continental Shelf, including safety reforms and a pause on deepwater drilling. This was the fifth meeting Salazar has hosted with oil and gas executives—part of continued efforts to engage industry leaders in the federal government’s response—to provide additional resources and expertise and to seek new, innovative measures to plug the leak, minimize its impact and protect shorelines.

White House Hosts Conference Call with Native American Tribes on BP Oil Spill

The White House yesterday hosted the first in a series of weekly conference calls with representatives of Native American tribes to discuss their concerns about the BP oil spill—

including both federally-recognized and non-federally recognized tribes. On the call, federal representatives answered questions and provided information about the ongoing response and available assistance.

Dozens of Additional Brown Pelicans Are Released Back to the Wild

For the second time in three days, personnel from the Fish and Wildlife Service and Coast Guard, released more than 70 rehabilitated brown pelicans back to the wild from the USCG station in Brunswick, Ga.—the first pelican airlift to the Georgia Coast. On Sunday, 72 rehabilitated brown pelicans were released at Aransas National Wildlife Refuge in Texas.

Wildlife rescue and recovery crews continue to survey affected areas using hundreds of personnel and dozens of vessels, as well as numerous airboats and helicopters. These missions are conducted routinely as well as under guidance of tips received via the Wildlife Hotline. To report oiled wildlife, call (866) 557-1401.

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service resource advisors continue to work with BP cleanup crews in parks and refuges. To date, nearly 1000 personnel from the Department of the Interior's Fish and Wildlife Service, National Park Service, U.S. Geological Survey and Bureau of Ocean Energy Management, Regulation and Enforcement have been deployed as part of the response.

EPA Continues to Conduct Air, Water and Sediment Monitoring in the Gulf

The latest EPA air monitoring for ozone and airborne particulate matter, conducted through June 27, has found levels of ozone and particulates ranging from the "good" to "unhealthy for sensitive groups" levels on EPA's Air Quality Index. People with heart or lung disease, older adults, and children should reduce prolonged or heavy exertion. For more information on EPA's air, water and sediment monitoring results, click [here](#).

Federal and Local Officials Hold Joint Open House Meeting in Iberia Parish

As part of continued efforts to inform Louisiana residents on the BP oil spill response and available assistance, representatives from the Coast Guard, Fish and Wildlife Service, EPA, and state and local governments held their sixth joint open house meeting in Iberia Parish in New Iberia, La.

Experts from the various agencies participating in the BP oil spill response were on hand to discuss a variety of topics with Parish residents—including the claims process, volunteer and contracting opportunities, environmental quality, worker safety and the various tools, equipment and strategies being used in the response. Previous meetings were held in Cameron Parish, St. Bernard Parish, Jefferson Parish, St. Mary's Parish and Orleans Parish.

BP Continues to Optimize Oil Recovery Rates from its Leaking Well

Under the direction of the federal government, BP continues to capture some oil and burn gas at the surface using its containment dome technique—collecting oil aboard the *Discoverer*

Enterprise, which is linked by a fixed riser pipe to the wellhead, and flaring off additional oil and gas on the *Q4000*, which is connected to the choke line. The collection capacity is expected to increase to an estimated 53,000 barrels once the third vessel, the *Helix Producer*, arrives on scene—a redundancy measure also taken under the direction of the federal government.

Progress Continues in Drilling Relief Wells; Ranging Process Continues

The *Development Driller III* continues to drill the first relief well to a depth of approximately 16,900 feet. The *Development Driller II* has drilled the second relief well—a redundancy measure taken at the direction of the administration—to a depth of more than 12,000 feet below the Gulf surface. BP continues the “ranging” process—which involves periodically withdrawing the drill pipe and sending an electrical signal down to determine how close they are getting to the wellbore.

Approved SBA Economic Injury Assistance Loans Top \$8.4 Million

SBA has approved 126 economic injury assistance loans to date, totaling more than \$8.4 million for small businesses in the Gulf Coast impacted by the BP oil spill. Additionally, the agency has granted deferments on 523 existing SBA disaster loans in the region, totaling more than \$2.6 million per month in payments. For information on assistance loans for affected businesses, visit the SBA’s Web site at www.sba.gov/services/disasterassistance, call (800) 659-2955 (800-877-8339 for the hearing impaired), or email disastercustomerservice@sba.gov.

Administration Continues to Oversee BP’s Claims Process; \$130 Million Disbursed

The administration will continue to hold the responsible parties accountable for repairing the damage, and repaying Americans who’ve suffered a financial loss as a result of the BP oil spill. To date, 85,060 claims have been opened, from which more than \$130 million have been disbursed. No claims have been denied to date. There are 952 claims adjusters on the ground. To file a claim, visit www.bp.com/claims or call BP’s helpline at 1-800-440-0858. Those who have already pursued the BP claims process and are not satisfied with BP’s resolution can call the Coast Guard at (800) 280-7118. Additional information about the BP claims process and all available avenues of assistance can be found at www.disasterassistance.gov.

By the Numbers to Date:

- The administration has authorized the deployment of 17,500 National Guard troops from Gulf Coast states to respond to this crisis; currently, 1,675 are active.
- Approximately 38,900 personnel are currently responding to protect the shoreline and wildlife and cleanup vital coastlines.
- More than 6,800 vessels are currently responding on site, including skimmers, tugs, barges, and recovery vessels to assist in containment and cleanup efforts—in addition to dozens of aircraft, remotely operated vehicles, and multiple mobile offshore drilling units.

- Approximately 2.75 million feet of containment boom and 4.89 million feet of sorbent boom have been deployed to contain the spill—and approximately 884,000 feet of containment boom and 2.05 million feet of sorbent boom are available.
- More than 28.2 million gallons of an oil-water mix have been recovered.
- Approximately 1.6 million gallons of total dispersant have been applied—1.03 million on the surface and 565,000 sub-sea. More than 491,000 gallons are available.
- 275 controlled burns have been conducted, efficiently removing a total of approximately 10 million gallons of oil from the open water in an effort to protect shoreline and wildlife. Because calculations on the volume of oil burned can take more than 48 hours, the reported total volume may not reflect the most recent controlled burns.
- 17 staging areas are in place to protect sensitive shorelines.
- Approximately 413 miles of Gulf Coast shoreline is currently oiled—approximately 259 miles in Louisiana, 48 miles in Mississippi, 47 miles in Alabama, and 59 miles in Florida.
- Approximately 80,228 square miles of Gulf of Mexico federal waters remain closed to fishing in order to balance economic and public health concerns. More than 66 percent remains open. Details can be found at <http://sero.nmfs.noaa.gov/>.
- To date, the administration has leveraged assets and skills from numerous foreign countries and international organizations as part of this historic, all-hands-on-deck response, including Canada, France, Germany, Japan, Mexico, Netherlands, Norway, the United Nations' International Maritime Organization and the European Union's Monitoring and Information Centre.

** The extent of shoreline oiling reported for Louisiana has been modified to be consistent with shoreline survey reports from the other Gulf States. The change in the numbers is a reporting issue rather than new oiling. Shoreline impacts vary greatly along the coast – both in degree of impact and type of environment (e.g. beach or marsh), and some reports to date have focused only on the heaviest oiled areas planned for immediate response. These reports will now include all degrees of oiling and will be consistent between states.*

These numbers continue to reflect a daily snapshot of shoreline currently experiencing impacts from oil so that planning and field operations can more quickly respond to new impacts; they do not include cumulative impacts to date, or shoreline that has already been cleared.

MONDAY, JUNE 28

Secretary Napolitano and Carol Browner Visit to New Orleans to Inspect the Response

Homeland Security Secretary Janet Napolitano and Assistant to the President for Energy and Climate Change Policy Carol Browner traveled to New Orleans to receive updates from National Incident Commander Admiral Thad Allen and senior federal officials leading the frontline response to the BP oil spill.

In their meetings, Secretary Napolitano and Ms. Browner discussed ongoing efforts to prevent oil from reaching the shoreline along the Gulf Coast and to mitigate its impact where it does. They were also joined by Federal Emergency Management Agency Administrator Craig Fugate

for a portion of the briefings to discuss preparations in the event a hurricane or tropical storm should strike the Gulf Coast.

Admiral Allen, Secretary Napolitano & Carol Browner Provide Daily Operational Update

Secretary Napolitano and Carol Browner joined Admiral Allen to provide a briefing to inform the American public and answer questions on the progress of the administration-wide response to the BP oil spill. Secretary Napolitano and Ms. Browner reiterated that the federal government's aggressive response efforts and oversight of BP will continue until BP stops its leaking well, the damage is cleaned up, and Gulf Coast communities are made whole, and stressed that the federal government is working closely with state and local authorities to ensure that they have the resources they need to meet the evolving threat from this oil spill.

BP Continues to Optimize Oil Recovery Rates from its Leaking Well

Under the direction of the federal government, BP continues to capture some oil and burn gas at the surface using its containment dome technique—collecting oil aboard the *Discoverer Enterprise*, which is linked by a fixed riser pipe to the wellhead, and flaring off additional oil and gas on the *Q4000*, which is connected to the choke line. BP has finished installing the first free standing riser, which has greater survivability than a fixed riser and will be connected to a third vessel, the *Helix Producer*—a redundancy measure also taken under the direction of the federal government.

Progress Continues in Drilling Relief Wells; Ranging Process Continues

The *Development Driller III* continues to drill the first relief well to a depth of approximately 16,545 feet. The *Development Driller II* has drilled the second relief well—a redundancy measure taken at the direction of the administration—to a depth of more than 12,000 feet below the Gulf surface.

BP continues the “ranging” process—which involves periodically withdrawing the drill pipe and sending an electrical signal down to determine how close they are getting to the wellbore.

NOAA-Supported Scientists Predict Increase in Area Containing Depleted Oxygen Levels

While it is unclear what impact, if any, will be linked to the BP Deepwater Horizon oil spill, a team of NOAA-supported scientists from the Louisiana Universities Marine Consortium, Louisiana State University, and the University of Michigan, predict that the northern Gulf of Mexico hypoxic zone, an underwater area with little or no oxygen known commonly as the “dead zone,” could be larger than the recent average by 500-1,800 square miles.

This forecast is based on Mississippi River nutrient flows compiled annually by the U.S. Geological Survey. Dead zones off the coast of Louisiana and Texas are caused by nutrient runoff, principally from agricultural activity, which stimulates an overgrowth of algae that sinks, decomposes, and consumes most of the life-giving oxygen supply in the water. The federal

government continues to engage the best scientific minds available to monitor the impacts of the BP oil spill on all aspects of the environment, including oxygen levels in the water column.

NOAA Expands Fishing Restriction in the Gulf; More than 66 Percent Remains Open

As part of continued efforts to ensure the safety of seafood from the Gulf of Mexico and protect consumers, NOAA has expanded the closed fishing area in the Gulf of Mexico to include portions of the oil slick moving beyond the area's current northern boundary, off the Florida panhandle's federal-state waterline. This boundary was moved eastward to Cape San Blas. The closed area now represents 80,228 square miles—approximately 33.2 percent—of federal waters in the Gulf of Mexico. This closure does not apply to any state waters. This leaves more than 66 percent of Gulf federal waters available for fishing. Details can be found at <http://sero.nmfs.noaa.gov/>.

Approved SBA Economic Injury Assistance Loans Top \$8 Million

SBA has approved 121 economic injury assistance loans to date, totaling more than \$8 million for small businesses in the Gulf Coast impacted by the BP oil spill. Additionally, the agency has granted deferments on 493 existing SBA disaster loans in the region, totaling more than \$2.25 million per month in payments. For information on assistance loans for affected businesses, visit the SBA's Web site at www.sba.gov/services/disasterassistance, call (800) 659-2955 (800-877-8339 for the hearing impaired), or email disastercustomerservice@sba.gov.

Administration Continues to Oversee BP's Claims Process

The administration will continue to hold the responsible parties accountable for repairing the damage, and repaying Americans who've suffered a financial loss as a result of the BP oil spill. To date, 82,351 claims have been opened, from which more than \$128.4 million have been disbursed. No claims have been denied to date. There are 933 claims adjusters on the ground. To file a claim, visit www.bp.com/claims or call BP's helpline at 1-800-440-0858. Those who have already pursued the BP claims process and are not satisfied with BP's resolution can call the Coast Guard at (800) 280-7118. Additional information about the BP claims process and all available avenues of assistance can be found at www.disasterassistance.gov.

By the Numbers to Date:

- The administration has authorized the deployment of 17,500 National Guard troops from Gulf Coast states to respond to this crisis; currently, 1,675 are active.
- Approximately 38,600 personnel are currently responding to protect the shoreline and wildlife and cleanup vital coastlines.
- More than 7,200 vessels are currently responding on site, including skimmers, tugs, barges, and recovery vessels to assist in containment and cleanup efforts—in addition to dozens of aircraft, remotely operated vehicles, and multiple mobile offshore drilling units.

- Approximately 2.75 million feet of containment boom and 4.86 million feet of sorbent boom have been deployed to contain the spill—and approximately 883,000 feet of containment boom and 2.14 million feet of sorbent boom are available.
- More than 28.2 million gallons of an oil-water mix have been recovered.
- Approximately 1.58 million gallons of total dispersant have been applied—1.03 million on the surface and 552,000 sub-sea. More than 446,000 gallons are available.
- 275 controlled burns have been conducted, efficiently removing a total of approximately 10 million gallons of oil from the open water in an effort to protect shoreline and wildlife. Because calculations on the volume of oil burned can take more than 48 hours, the reported total volume may not reflect the most recent controlled burns.
- 17 staging areas are in place to protect sensitive shorelines.
- Approximately 213 miles of Gulf Coast shoreline is currently oiled—approximately 69 miles in Louisiana, 45 miles in Mississippi, 45 miles in Alabama, and 54 miles in Florida. These numbers reflect a daily snapshot of shoreline currently experiencing impacts from oil so that planning and field operations can more quickly respond to new impacts; they do not include cumulative impacts to date, or shoreline that has already been cleared.
- Approximately 80,228 square miles of Gulf of Mexico federal waters remain closed to fishing in order to balance economic and public health concerns. More than 66 percent remains open. Details can be found at <http://sero.nmfs.noaa.gov/>.
- To date, the administration has leveraged assets and skills from numerous foreign countries and international organizations as part of this historic, all-hands-on-deck response, including Canada, Germany, Mexico, Netherlands, Norway, the United Nations' International Maritime Organization and the European Union's Monitoring and Information Centre.

SUNDAY, JUNE 27

Dozens of Brown Pelicans Are Released in Aransas National Wildlife Refuge

72 rehabilitated brown pelicans were transported and released at Aransas National Wildlife Refuge. Located approximately 175 miles south of Houston, this location meets the pelicans' coastal habitat needs for breeding.

Wildlife rescue and recovery crews continue to survey affected areas using hundreds of personnel and dozens of vessels, as well as numerous airboats and helicopters. These missions are conducted routinely as well as under guidance of tips received via the Wildlife Hotline. To report oiled wildlife, call (866) 557-1401.

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service resource advisors continue to work with BP cleanup crews in parks and refuges. To date, nearly 900 personnel from the Department of the Interior's Fish and Wildlife Service, National Park Service, U.S. Geological Survey and Bureau of Ocean Energy Management, Regulation and Enforcement have been deployed as part of the response.

BP Continues to Optimize Oil Recovery Rates from its Leaking Well

Under the direction of the federal government, BP continues to capture some oil and burn gas at the surface using its containment dome technique—collecting oil aboard the *Discoverer Enterprise*, which is linked by a fixed riser pipe to the wellhead, and flaring off additional oil and gas on the *Q4000*, which is connected to the choke line. BP has finished installing the first free standing riser, which has greater survivability than a fixed riser and will be connected to a third vessel arriving at the site of the wellbore next week, the *Helix Producer*—a redundancy measure also taken under the direction of the federal government.

Progress Continues in Drilling Relief Wells; Ranging Process Continues

The *Development Driller III* continues to drill the first relief well to a depth of approximately 16,400 feet (11,100 feet below the sea floor). The *Development Driller II* has drilled the second relief well—a redundancy measure taken at the direction of the administration—to a depth of more than 12,000 feet below the Gulf surface.

BP continues the “ranging” process—which involves periodically withdrawing the drill pipe and sending an electrical signal down to determine how close they are getting to the wellbore.

Administration Continues to Oversee BP’s Claims Process

The administration will continue to hold the responsible parties accountable for repairing the damage, and repaying Americans who’ve suffered a financial loss as a result of the BP oil spill. To date, 81,701 claims have been opened, from which more than \$128.4 million have been disbursed. No claims have been denied to date. There are 885 claims adjusters on the ground. To file a claim, visit www.bp.com/claims or call BP’s helpline at 1-800-440-0858. Those who have already pursued the BP claims process and are not satisfied with BP’s resolution can call the Coast Guard at (800) 280-7118. Additional information about the BP claims process and all available avenues of assistance can be found at www.disasterassistance.gov.

By the Numbers to Date:

- The administration has authorized the deployment of 17,500 National Guard troops from Gulf Coast states to respond to this crisis; currently, 1,522 are active.
- Approximately 39,000 personnel are currently responding to protect the shoreline and wildlife and cleanup vital coastlines.
- More than 6,500 vessels are currently responding on site, including skimmers, tugs, barges, and recovery vessels to assist in containment and cleanup efforts—in addition to dozens of aircraft, remotely operated vehicles, and multiple mobile offshore drilling units.
- Approximately 2.7 million feet of containment boom and 4.7 million feet of sorbent boom have been deployed to contain the spill—and approximately 981,000 feet of containment boom and 2 million feet of sorbent boom are available.
- More than 27.3 million gallons of an oil-water mix have been recovered.
- Approximately 1.54 million gallons of total dispersant have been applied—1 million on the surface and 540,000 sub-sea. More than 450,000 gallons are available.

- 275 controlled burns have been conducted, efficiently removing a total of approximately 10 million gallons of oil from the open water in an effort to protect shoreline and wildlife. Because calculations on the volume of oil burned can take more than 48 hours, the reported total volume may not reflect the most recent controlled burns.
- 17 staging areas are in place to protect sensitive shorelines.
- Approximately 188 miles of Gulf Coast shoreline is currently oiled—approximately 34 miles in Louisiana, 45 miles in Mississippi, 48 miles in Alabama, and 61 miles in Florida. These numbers reflect a daily snapshot of shoreline currently experiencing impacts from oil so that planning and field operations can more quickly respond to new impacts; they do not include cumulative impacts to date, or shoreline that has already been cleared.
- Approximately 78,600 square miles of Gulf of Mexico federal waters remain closed to fishing in order to balance economic and public health concerns. More than 67 percent remains open. Details can be found at <http://sero.nmfs.noaa.gov/>.
- To date, the administration has leveraged assets and skills from numerous foreign countries and international organizations as part of this historic, all-hands-on-deck response, including Canada, Germany, Mexico, Netherlands, Norway, the United Nations' International Maritime Organization and the European Union's Monitoring and Information Centre.

SATURDAY, JUNE 26

Admiral Allen Provides Operational Update on the BP Oil Spill Response

National Incident Commander Admiral Thad Allen provided a briefing to inform the American public and answer questions on the progress of the administration-wide response to the BP oil spill. He addressed the ongoing coordination with NOAA's National Weather Service to monitor and track Tropical Storm Alex and the potential for other storms—reiterating the contingency plans in the event that a hurricane or tropical storm approaches the vicinity of the wellbore and the threshold of gale force winds that would require an evacuation of response personnel and equipment.

BP Continues to Optimize Oil Recovery Rates from its Leaking Well

Under the direction of the federal government, BP continues to capture some oil and burn gas at the surface using its containment dome technique—collecting oil aboard the *Discoverer Enterprise*, which is linked by a fixed riser pipe to the wellhead, and flaring off additional oil and gas on the *Q4000*, which is connected to the choke line. BP has finished installing the first free standing riser, which has greater survivability than a fixed riser and will be connected to a third vessel arriving at the site of the wellbore next week, the *Helix Producer*—a redundancy measure also taken under the direction of the federal government.

Progress Continues in Drilling Relief Wells; Ranging Process Continues

The *Development Driller III* continues to drill the first relief well to a depth of approximately 16,400 feet (11,100 feet below the sea floor), and crews have begun the process of cementing and casing the well liner. The *Development Driller II* has drilled the second relief well—a redundancy measure taken at the direction of the administration—to a depth of approximately 11,800 feet (6,500 feet below the sea floor).

BP continues the “ranging” process—which involves periodically withdrawing the drill pipe and sending an electrical signal down to determine how close they are getting to the wellbore.

Administration Continues to Oversee BP’s Claims Process

The administration will continue to hold the responsible parties accountable for repairing the damage, and repaying Americans who’ve suffered a financial loss as a result of the BP oil spill. To date, 80,403 claims have been opened, from which more than \$128.4 million have been disbursed. No claims have been denied to date. There are 885 claims adjusters on the ground. To file a claim, visit www.bp.com/claims or call BP’s helpline at 1-800-440-0858. Those who have already pursued the BP claims process and are not satisfied with BP’s resolution can call the Coast Guard at (800) 280-7118. Additional information about the BP claims process and all available avenues of assistance can be found at www.disasterassistance.gov.

By the Numbers to Date:

- The administration has authorized the deployment of 17,500 National Guard troops from Gulf Coast states to respond to this crisis; currently, 1,625 are active.
- Approximately 38,600 personnel are currently responding to protect the shoreline and wildlife and cleanup vital coastlines.
- Nearly 6,600 vessels are currently responding on site, including skimmers, tugs, barges, and recovery vessels to assist in containment and cleanup efforts—in addition to dozens of aircraft, remotely operated vehicles, and multiple mobile offshore drilling units.
- Approximately 2.68 million feet of containment boom and 4.59 million feet of sorbent boom have been deployed to contain the spill—and approximately 936,000 feet of containment boom and 2.23 million feet of sorbent boom are available.
- Approximately 26.7 million gallons of an oil-water mix have been recovered.
- Approximately 1.53 million gallons of total dispersant have been applied—1 million on the surface and 528,000 subsea. More than 445,000 gallons are available.
- 275 controlled burns have been conducted, efficiently removing a total of more than 10 million gallons of oil from the open water in an effort to protect shoreline and wildlife. Because calculations on the volume of oil burned can take more than 48 hours, the reported total volume may not reflect the most recent controlled burns.
- 17 staging areas are in place to protect sensitive shorelines.
- Approximately 180 miles of Gulf Coast shoreline is currently oiled—approximately 34 miles in Louisiana, 40 miles in Mississippi, 43 miles in Alabama, and 63 miles in Florida. These numbers reflect a daily snapshot of shoreline currently experiencing impacts from oil so that planning and field operations can more quickly respond to new impacts; they do not include cumulative impacts to date, or shoreline that has already been cleared.

- Approximately 78,600 square miles of Gulf of Mexico federal waters remain closed to fishing in order to balance economic and public health concerns. More than 67 percent remains open. Details can be found at <http://sero.nmfs.noaa.gov/>.
- To date, the administration has leveraged assets and skills from numerous foreign countries and international organizations as part of this historic, all-hands-on-deck response, including Canada, Germany, Mexico, Netherlands, Norway, the United Nations' International Maritime Organization and the European Union's Monitoring and Information Centre.

FRIDAY, JUNE 25

Admiral Allen Provides Operational Update on the BP Oil Spill Response

National Incident Commander Admiral Thad Allen provided a briefing to inform the American public and answer questions on the progress of the administration-wide response to the BP oil spill. He addressed contingency plans that would be implemented in the event of a hurricane or tropical storm entering the Gulf of Mexico—and the threshold of gale force winds that would require the responding vessels in the vicinity of the Deepwater Horizon drilling site to be evacuated. A transcript is available at <http://www.deepwaterhorizonresponse.com/go/doc/2931/712211/>.

Director Bromwich Announces New Oversight and Enforcement Initiatives

Bureau of Ocean Energy Management, Regulation and Enforcement Director Michael Bromwich—the former Department of Justice Inspector General who now leads Interior Department reform initiatives to strengthen oversight and policing of offshore oil and gas development—announced that he will establish an investigations and review unit to expedite his oversight, enforcement and re-organization mandates.

The new unit will provide the capacity to investigate allegations of misconduct, unified and coordinated monitoring of compliance with laws and regulations, and be able to respond swiftly to emerging and urgent issues on a bureau-wide level and in the offshore energy industry.

Fifth NOAA Ship Adds to Ongoing Research Efforts in the Gulf Coast

NOAA Ship *Delaware II* departed Key West, Fla., to collect tunas, swordfish and sharks and compile data about the conditions these highly migratory species are experiencing in the Gulf of Mexico. During its two-week mission, the research vessel will use longline fishing gear to capture the fish, and assess their environment using sophisticated water chemistry monitoring instruments.

Two other NOAA ships—*Pisces*, one of NOAA's newest research vessels, and the ship *Oregon II*—are in the midst of surveys of reef fish, bottom-dwelling fish, and shrimp in the eastern and western Gulf of Mexico to sample for seafood and water quality and species abundance as part of the oil spill response. For a complete list of vessels involved in NOAA's ongoing efforts to

engage the best scientific minds to monitor water quality and ensure the health and safety of seafood, go to http://www.noaanews.noaa.gov/stories2010/20100625_delaware.html.

BP Continues to Optimize Oil Recovery Rates from its Leaking Well

Under the direction of the federal government, BP continues to capture some oil and burn gas at the surface using its containment dome technique, despite a temporary interruption earlier this week. In addition to the oil collection aboard the *Discoverer Enterprise*, which is linked by the riser pipe to the wellhead, and the *Q4000*, which continues to flare off additional oil and gas being brought up through the choke line, collection capacity is expected to increase when a third vessel arrives next week and is attached to the kill line.

Progress Continues in Drilling Relief Wells

The *Development Driller III* continues to drill the first relief well to a depth of approximately 16,200 feet (11,000 feet below the sea floor), and crews have begun the process of cementing and casing the well liner. The *Development Driller II* has drilled the second relief well—a redundancy measure taken at the direction of the administration—to a depth of approximately 11,800 feet (6,500 feet below the sea floor).

BP has started the “ranging” process—which involves periodically withdrawing the drill pipe and sending an electrical signal down to determine how close they are getting to the wellbore.

More than 500 Fish and Wildlife Service Personnel Deployed to Protect Vital Wildlife

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service continues to coordinate and supervise search and capture for oiled wildlife—dispatching 528 staff to conduct aerial flights to identify oiled wildlife and helping facilitate recovery and treatment, and leading numerous bird survey teams in Louisiana, Mississippi, Alabama, and Florida to determine the extent of the oil impact on birds. To report oiled wildlife, call the Wildlife Hotline at (866) 557-1401.

Approved SBA Economic Injury Assistance Loans Top \$6.5 Million; Deferments on Existing Disaster Loans Surpass \$2.25 Million per Month

SBA has approved 109 economic injury assistance loans to date, totaling more than \$6.5 million for small businesses in the Gulf Coast impacted by the BP oil spill. Additionally, the agency has granted deferments on 493 existing SBA disaster loans in the region, totaling more than \$2.25 million per month in payments. For information on assistance loans for affected businesses, visit the SBA’s Web site at www.sba.gov/services/disasterassistance, call (800) 659-2955 (800-877-8339 for the hearing impaired), or email disastercustomerservice@sba.gov.

Administration Continues to Oversee BP’s Claims Process

The administration will continue to hold the responsible parties accountable for repairing the damage, and repaying Americans who’ve suffered a financial loss as a result of the BP oil spill. To date, 77,915 claims have been opened, from which more than \$125.9 million have been

disbursed. No claims have been denied to date. There are 839 claims adjusters on the ground. To file a claim, visit www.bp.com/claims or call BP's helpline at 1-800-440-0858. Those who have already pursued the BP claims process and are not satisfied with BP's resolution can call the Coast Guard at (800) 280-7118. Additional information about the BP claims process and all available avenues of assistance can be found at www.disasterassistance.gov.

By the Numbers to Date:

- The administration has authorized the deployment of 17,500 National Guard troops from Gulf Coast states to respond to this crisis; currently, 1,618 are active.
- Approximately 37,000 personnel are currently responding to protect the shoreline and wildlife and cleanup vital coastlines.
- More than 6,500 vessels are currently responding on site, including skimmers, tugs, barges, and recovery vessels to assist in containment and cleanup efforts—in addition to dozens of aircraft, remotely operated vehicles, and multiple mobile offshore drilling units.
- Approximately 2.63 million feet of containment boom and 4.41 million feet of sorbent boom have been deployed to contain the spill—and approximately 825,000 feet of containment boom and 2.23 million feet of sorbent boom are available.
- Approximately 26 million gallons of an oil-water mix have been recovered.
- Approximately 1.51 million gallons of total dispersant have been applied—998,000 on the surface and 515,000 subsea. More than 494,000 gallons are available.
- 275 controlled burns have been conducted, efficiently removing a total of more than 10 million gallons of oil from the open water in an effort to protect shoreline and wildlife. Because calculations on the volume of oil burned can take more than 48 hours, the reported total volume may not reflect the most recent controlled burns.
- 17 staging areas are in place to protect sensitive shorelines.
- Approximately 179 miles of Gulf Coast shoreline is currently oiled—approximately 34 miles in Louisiana, 42 miles in Mississippi, 42 miles in Alabama, and 61 miles in Florida. These numbers reflect a daily snapshot of shoreline currently experiencing impacts from oil so that planning and field operations can more quickly respond to new impacts; they do not include cumulative impacts to date, or shoreline that has already been cleared.
- Approximately 78,600 square miles of Gulf of Mexico federal waters remain closed to fishing in order to balance economic and public health concerns. More than 67 percent remains open. Details can be found at <http://sero.nmfs.noaa.gov/>.
- To date, the administration has leveraged assets and skills from numerous foreign countries and international organizations as part of this historic, all-hands-on-deck response, including Canada, Germany, Mexico, Netherlands, Norway, the United Nations' International Maritime Organization and the European Union's Monitoring and Information Centre.

[THURSDAY, JUNE 24](#)

Carol Browner Meets with Top BP Officials

Assistant to the President for Energy and Climate Change Carol Browner today met with BP executives Bob Dudley, Lamar McKay, David Nagel and Karen St. John to discuss a number of key issues, including containment, redundancy, the claims process and scientific monitoring. Dudley recently assumed the lead role for BP in the Gulf restoration.

Browner reiterated the President's commitment to the people of the Gulf—that the administration will not rest or be satisfied until the leak is stopped at the source, the oil in the Gulf is contained and cleaned up, and the people of the Gulf are able to go back to their lives and their livelihoods—and reminded them that their work and response will be based on that bar.

Regional Incident Commanders Provide Operational Update on the BP Oil Spill Response

Coast Guard Captains Steven Poulin and Roger Laferriere, the Regional Incident Commanders for the Mobile and Houma sectors, respectively, today provided operational updates to inform Gulf Coast residents on the progress of the administration-wide response to the BP oil spill.

Containment Cap Operations Resume; Preparations are Made for Third Vessel

Yesterday, as a precautionary measure to ensure the safety of operations, the use of the lower marine riser package (LMRP) containment cap was temporarily suspended when a discharge of liquids was observed. Upon completion of the inspection, the LMRP was reconnected to the *Discoverer Enterprise* around 8 p.m. last night and resumed operations this morning.

The capture of oil and gas through the blowout preventer's choke line to the *Q4000* vessel on the surface has continued without interruption.

The first of four free-standing risers has been installed and is being tested. The vessel *Helix Producer*, which is expected to be operational by late June, will be used to produce oil and gas through the first free-standing riser.

FWS and NPS Continue Their Efforts to Recover and Rehabilitate Oiled Wildlife

U.S. Fish and Wildlife and National Park Service personnel continue efforts to protect Gulf Coast wildlife and habitats from the effects of the BP oil spill. On Wednesday, FWS rescue and recovery teams responded to calls to the Wildlife Hotline reporting oiled or injured wildlife along the Gulf Coast. To report oiled wildlife, call (866) 557-1401.

Approved SBA Economic Injury Assistance Loans Top \$6 Million

SBA has approved 101 economic injury assistance loans to date, totaling more than \$6 million for small businesses in the Gulf Coast impacted by the BP oil spill. Additionally, the agency has granted deferments on 481 existing SBA disaster loans in the region, totaling more than \$2.2 million per month in payments. For information on assistance loans for affected businesses, visit the SBA's Web site at www.sba.gov/services/disasterassistance, call (800) 659-2955 (800-877-8339 for the hearing impaired), or email disastercustomerservice@sba.gov.

Administration Continues to Oversee BP's Claims Process; Payments Surpass \$125 Million

The administration will continue to hold the responsible parties accountable for repairing the damage, and repaying Americans who've suffered a financial loss as a result of the BP oil spill. To date, 75,106 claims have been opened, from which more than \$125.9 million have been disbursed. No claims have been denied to date. There are 787 claims adjusters on the ground. To file a claim, visit www.bp.com/claims or call BP's helpline at 1-800-440-0858. Those who have already pursued the BP claims process and are not satisfied with BP's resolution can call the Coast Guard at (800) 280-7118. Additional information about the BP claims process and all available avenues of assistance can be found at www.disasterassistance.gov.

On Wednesday, a meeting was held with representatives from the State of Florida, top BP claims officials and the Integrated Services Team—which was established by the National Incident Command to coordinate interagency support services for individuals and small businesses impacted by the BP oil spill—to ensure that BP's claims process is transparent, prompt, and responsive to the unique needs of the impacted communities citizens and businesses.

By the Numbers to Date:

- The administration has authorized the deployment of 17,500 National Guard troops from Gulf Coast states to respond to this crisis; currently, 1,640 are active.
- Approximately 37,000 personnel are currently responding to protect the shoreline and wildlife and cleanup vital coastlines.
- More than 6,200 vessels are currently responding on site, including skimmers, tugs, barges, and recovery vessels to assist in containment and cleanup efforts—in addition to dozens of aircraft, remotely operated vehicles, and multiple mobile offshore drilling units.
- Approximately 2.6 million feet of containment boom and 4.24 million feet of sorbent boom have been deployed to contain the spill—and approximately 850,000 feet of containment boom and 2.26 million feet of sorbent boom are available.
- Approximately 25.6 million gallons of an oil-water mix have been recovered.
- Approximately 1.48 million gallons of total dispersant have been applied—977,000 on the surface and 502,000 subsea. More than 422,000 gallons are available.
- 275 controlled burns have been conducted, efficiently removing a total of more than 10 million gallons of oil from the open water in an effort to protect shoreline and wildlife. Because calculations on the volume of oil burned can take more than 48 hours, the reported total volume may not reflect the most recent controlled burns.
- 17 staging areas are in place to protect sensitive shorelines.
- Approximately 179 miles of Gulf Coast shoreline is currently oiled—approximately 34 miles in Louisiana, 42 miles in Mississippi, 42 miles in Alabama, and 61 miles in Florida. These numbers reflect a daily snapshot of shoreline currently experiencing impacts from oil so that planning and field operations can more quickly respond to new impacts; they do not include cumulative impacts to date, or shoreline that has already been cleared.
- Approximately 78,600 square miles of Gulf of Mexico federal waters remain closed to fishing in order to balance economic and public health concerns. More than 67 percent remains open. Details can be found at <http://sero.nmfs.noaa.gov/>.

- To date, the administration has leveraged assets and skills from numerous foreign countries and international organizations as part of this historic, all-hands-on-deck response, including Canada, Germany, Mexico, Netherlands, Norway, the United Nations' International Maritime Organization and the European Union's Monitoring and Information Centre.

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 23

Admiral Allen Provides Operational Update on the BP Oil Spill Response

National Incident Commander Admiral Thad Allen provided a briefing to inform the American public and answer questions on the progress of the administration-wide response to the BP oil spill. A transcript is available at <http://www.deepwaterhorizonresponse.com/go/doc/2931/691455/>.

Allen was joined by Deputy Assistant Secretary of Labor for Occupational Safety and Health Jordan Barab, who discussed his agency's efforts to protect the health and safety of workers participating in the response. OSHA has more than 150 personnel in the Gulf to monitor worker safety and health and inform workers on how to best protect themselves—which includes distributing educational materials in English, Spanish and Vietnamese.

Containment Cap Operations Suspended; Severe Weather Impacting Today's Cleanup

While the capture of oil and gas through the blowout preventer's choke line to the Q4000 vessel on the surface continues, the use of the lower marine riser package (LMRP) containment cap was temporarily suspended today when a discharge of liquids was observed from a diverter valve on the drill ship *Discoverer Enterprise*. As a precautionary measure, the LMRP containment cap system, which is attached to the *Discover Enterprise*, was removed to ensure the safety of operations and allow the unexpected release of liquids to be analyzed.

Severe weather conditions across southeast Louisiana also impacted some of the regularly scheduled cleanup and response efforts in the area. Safety of all personnel is vital to the success of this operation, and crews will resume cleanup operations as soon as possible.

Prior to the suspension, the *Discoverer Enterprise* and the *Q4000* recovered more than 27,000 barrels of oil in the most recent 24-hour period—the largest daily collection amount to date.

Administration Releases its First Scientific Report on Subsea Monitoring Data

NOAA, EPA and White House Office of Science and Technology Policy (OSTP) today released the first peer reviewed, analytical summary report (see <http://www.noaa.gov/sciencemissions/bpoilspill.html>) about the subsea monitoring in the vicinity of the Deepwater Horizon wellhead—which contains analysis of samples taken by the *R/V Brooks McCall*, a research vessel conducting water sampling from half a mile to nine miles of the wellhead—part of continued efforts to engage the brightest scientific minds to confront the worst environmental disaster the country has ever faced.

The report comes from the Joint Analysis Group (JAG), which was established to facilitate cooperation and coordination among the best scientific minds across the government and provide a coordinated analysis of information related to subsea monitoring in the Gulf of Mexico. This comprehensive analysis helps define the characteristics of the water and presence of oil below the surface in the area close to the wellhead from May 8-25.

Federal and Local Officials Hold Joint Open House Meeting in Orleans Parish

As part of continued efforts to inform Louisiana residents on the BP oil spill response and available assistance, representatives from the Coast Guard, Fish and Wildlife Service, EPA, and state and local governments held their fifth joint open house meeting in Orleans Parish.

Experts from the various agencies participating in the BP oil spill response were on hand to discuss a variety of topics with Parish residents—including the claims process, volunteer and contracting opportunities, environmental quality, worker safety and the various tools, equipment and strategies being used in the response. Previous meetings were held in Cameron Parish, St. Bernard Parish, Jefferson Parish and St. Mary's Parish.

FWS Returns 63 Birds to the Wild in Largest Release of Rehabilitated Birds to Date

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service released 62 rehabilitated brown pelicans and one rehabilitated northern gannet at the Aransas National Wildlife Refuge on the Texas Coast—the largest release of rehabilitated birds since the spill began—part of continued efforts by FWS and National Park Service personnel to protect Gulf Coast wildlife and habitats from the effects of the BP oil spill. Currently, FWS has 499 personnel in the Gulf to coordinate and supervise search and capture for oiled wildlife and help facilitate recovery and treatment.

Oil Removed from Water by Controlled Burn Operations Surpasses 10 Million Gallons

As part of a coordinated response that combines tactics deployed above water, below water, offshore, and close to coastal areas, controlled burns efficiently remove oil from the open water in an effort to protect shoreline and wildlife. In total, 275 burns have been conducted to remove more than 10 million gallons of oil from the water.

NOAA Opens More Than 8,000 Square Miles of Fishing Closed Area in the Gulf of Mexico

NOAA has opened more than 8,000 square miles of previously closed fishing area in the Gulf of Mexico, because the agency has not observed oil in the area. The most significant opening is an area due south of Mississippi. Additionally, some smaller areas were opened off the Louisiana and central Florida coasts. These areas were initially closed as a precautionary measure to ensure the safety of seafood from the Gulf because oil was projected to be within those areas.

The closed area now represents 78,597 square miles—approximately 32.5 percent—of federal waters in the Gulf of Mexico. This closure does not apply to any state waters. This leaves more than 67 percent of Gulf federal waters available for fishing. Details can be found at <http://sero.nmfs.noaa.gov/>.

Approved SBA Economic Injury Assistance Loans Surpass \$5.94 Million

SBA has approved 98 economic injury assistance loans to date, totaling more than \$5.94 million for small businesses in the Gulf Coast impacted by the BP oil spill. Additionally, the agency has granted deferments on 465 existing SBA disaster loans in the region, totaling more than \$2.13 million per month in payments. For information on assistance loans for affected businesses, visit the SBA's Web site at www.sba.gov/services/disasterassistance, call (800) 659-2955 (800-877-8339 for the hearing impaired), or email disastercustomerservice@sba.gov.

Administration Continues to Oversee BP's Claims Process

The administration will continue to hold the responsible parties accountable for repairing the damage, and repaying Americans who've suffered a financial loss as a result of the BP oil spill. To date, 72,563 claims have been opened, from which more than \$123 million have been disbursed. No claims have been denied to date. There are 731 claims adjusters on the ground. To file a claim, visit www.bp.com/claims or call BP's helpline at 1-800-440-0858. Those who have already pursued the BP claims process and are not satisfied with BP's resolution can call the Coast Guard at (800) 280-7118. Additional information about the BP claims process and all available avenues of assistance can be found at www.disasterassistance.gov.

By the Numbers to Date:

- The administration has authorized the deployment of 17,500 National Guard troops from Gulf Coast states to respond to this crisis; currently, 1,585 are active.
- Approximately 35,600 personnel are currently responding to protect the shoreline and wildlife and cleanup vital coastlines.
- More than 6,300 vessels are currently responding on site, including skimmers, tugs, barges, and recovery vessels to assist in containment and cleanup efforts—in addition to dozens of aircraft, remotely operated vehicles, and multiple mobile offshore drilling units.
- Approximately 2.57 million feet of containment boom and 4.17 million feet of sorbent boom have been deployed to contain the spill—and approximately 790,000 feet of containment boom and 2.1 million feet of sorbent boom are available.
- Approximately 25.4 million gallons of an oil-water mix have been recovered.
- Approximately 1.47 million gallons of total dispersant have been applied—972,000 on the surface and 493,000 subsea. More than 445,000 gallons are available.
- 275 controlled burns have been conducted, efficiently removing a total of more than 10 million gallons of oil from the open water in an effort to protect shoreline and wildlife. Because calculations on the volume of oil burned can take more than 48 hours, the reported total volume may not reflect the most recent controlled burns.
- 17 staging areas are in place to protect sensitive shorelines.
- Approximately 166 miles of Gulf Coast shoreline is currently oiled—approximately 34 miles in Louisiana, 41 miles in Mississippi, 43 miles in Alabama, and 48 miles in Florida. These numbers reflect a daily snapshot of shoreline currently experiencing impacts from oil so that planning and field operations can more quickly respond to new impacts; they do not include cumulative impacts to date, or shoreline that has already been cleared.

- Approximately 78,600 square miles of Gulf of Mexico federal waters remain closed to fishing in order to balance economic and public health concerns. More than 67 percent remains open. Details can be found at <http://sero.nmfs.noaa.gov/>.
- To date, the administration has leveraged assets and skills from numerous foreign countries and international organizations as part of this historic, all-hands-on-deck response, including Canada, Germany, Mexico, Netherlands, Norway, the United Nations' International Maritime Organization and the European Union's Monitoring and Information Centre.

TUESDAY, JUNE 22

President Obama Discusses Oil Spill Response with Cabinet Officials

At a Cabinet meeting held today at the White House, President Obama met with senior administration officials to discuss a range of topics—including the ongoing federal response to one of the worst natural disasters in the nation's history.

In remarks (see <http://www.whitehouse.gov/the-press-office/remarks-president-after-cabinet-meeting>) following the meeting (available at <http://www.whitehouse.gov/the-press-office/remarks-president-after-cabinet-meeting>), the President highlighted the work of Ken Feinberg—the newly-appointed administrator of the \$20 billion escrow account announced last week, who has traveled to the Gulf to meet with governors and local officials—and Homeland Security Secretary Janet Napolitano, who briefed the President on the operations to protect the shoreline, including skimming and controlled burns.

Admiral Allen Provides Operational Update on the BP Oil Spill Response

National Incident Commander Admiral Thad Allen provided a briefing to inform the American public and answer questions on the progress of the administration-wide response to the BP oil spill. A transcript is available at <http://www.deepwaterhorizonresponse.com/go/doc/2931/687251/>.

Fish and Wildlife Continues Efforts to Recover and Rehabilitate Oiled Wildlife

U.S. Fish and Wildlife and National Park Service personnel continue efforts to protect Gulf Coast wildlife and habitats from the effects of the BP oil spill. On Monday, rescue and recovery teams responded to a total of 60 calls to the Wildlife Hotline reporting oiled or injured wildlife along the Gulf Coast. To report oiled wildlife, call (866) 557-1401.

BP Continues to Optimize Oil Recovery Rates from its Leaking Well

Under the direction of the federal government, BP continues to capture some oil and burn gas at the surface using its containment dome technique.

In addition to the oil collection aboard the *Discoverer Enterprise*, which is linked by the riser pipe to the wellhead, and the *Q4000*, which continues to flare off additional oil and gas being brought up through the choke lines—a method that was also put in place at the government’s direction.

Under the direction of the National Incident Commander, BP is making preparations to bring a third vessel to the vicinity of the leaking well in order to increase collection capacity.

Successful Controlled Burn

In recent days, favorable weather conditions have allowed responders to conduct successful controlled burn operations. As part of a coordinated response that combines tactics deployed above water, below water, offshore, and close to coastal areas, controlled burns efficiently remove oil from the open water in an effort to protect shoreline and wildlife. In total, 275 burns have been conducted to remove more than 9.32 million gallons of oil from the water.

Approved SBA Economic Injury Assistance Loans Surpass \$5.75 Million; Deferments on Existing SBA Disaster Loans Top \$2 Million per Month

SBA has approved 94 economic injury assistance loans to date, totaling more than \$5.75 million for small businesses in the Gulf Coast impacted by the BP oil spill. Additionally, the agency has granted deferments on 452 existing SBA disaster loans in the region, totaling more than \$2.12 million per month in payments. For information on assistance loans for affected businesses, visit the SBA’s Web site at www.sba.gov/services/disasterassistance, call (800) 659-2955 (800-877-8339 for the hearing impaired), or email disastercustomerservice@sba.gov.

Administration Continues to Oversee BP’s Claims Process

The administration will continue to hold the responsible parties accountable for repairing the damage, and repaying Americans who’ve suffered a financial loss as a result of the BP oil spill. To date, 69,872 claims have been opened, from which more than \$118 million have been disbursed. No claims have been denied to date. There are 730 claims adjusters on the ground. To file a claim, visit www.bp.com/claims or call BP’s helpline at 1-800-440-0858. Those who have already pursued the BP claims process and are not satisfied with BP’s resolution can call the Coast Guard at (800) 280-7118. Additional information about the BP claims process and all available avenues of assistance can be found at www.disasterassistance.gov.

By the Numbers to Date:

- The administration has authorized the deployment of 17,500 National Guard troops from Gulf Coast states to respond to this crisis; currently, 1,566 are active.
- Approximately 37,000 personnel are currently responding to protect the shoreline and wildlife and cleanup vital coastlines.
- More than 6,300 vessels are currently responding on site, including skimmers, tugs, barges, and recovery vessels to assist in containment and cleanup efforts—in addition to

dozens of aircraft, remotely operated vehicles, and multiple mobile offshore drilling units.

- Approximately 2.54 million feet of containment boom and 4.14 million feet of sorbent boom have been deployed to contain the spill—and approximately 600,000 feet of containment boom and 2 million feet of sorbent boom are available.
- Approximately 25 million gallons of an oil-water mix have been recovered.
- Approximately 1.45 million gallons of total dispersant have been applied—970,000 on the surface and 483,000 subsea. More than 445,000 gallons are available.
- 275 controlled burns have been conducted, efficiently removing a total of more than 9.32 million gallons of oil from the open water in an effort to protect shoreline and wildlife. Because calculations on the volume of oil burned can take more than 48 hours, the reported total volume may not reflect the most recent controlled burns.
- 17 staging areas are in place to protect sensitive shorelines.
- Approximately 171 miles of Gulf Coast shoreline is currently oiled—approximately 34 miles in Louisiana, 41 miles in Mississippi, 42 miles in Alabama, and 54 miles in Florida. These numbers reflect a daily snapshot of shoreline currently experiencing impacts from oil so that planning and field operations can more quickly respond to new impacts; they do not include cumulative impacts to date, or shoreline that has already been cleared.
- Approximately 87,000 square miles of Gulf of Mexico federal waters remain closed to fishing in order to balance economic and public health concerns. Sixty-four percent remains open. Details can be found at <http://sero.nmfs.noaa.gov/>.
- To date, the administration has leveraged assets and skills from numerous foreign countries and international organizations as part of this historic, all-hands-on-deck response, including Canada, Germany, Mexico, Netherlands, Norway, the United Nations' International Maritime Organization and the European Union's Monitoring and Information Centre.

MONDAY, JUNE 21

Admiral Allen Provides Operational Update on the BP Oil Spill Response

National Incident Commander Admiral Thad Allen provided a briefing to inform the American public and answer questions on the progress of the administration-wide response to the BP oil spill. A transcript is available at

<http://www.deepwaterhorizonresponse.com/go/doc/2931/683223/>.

Administration Sends Third Bill to BP for \$51.4 Million

The Obama Administration today sent a third bill for \$51.4 million to BP and other responsible parties. As a responsible party, BP is financially responsible for all costs associated with the response to the spill, including efforts to stop the leak at its source, reduce the spread of oil, protect the shoreline and mitigate damages, as well as long term recovery efforts to ensure that all individuals and communities impacted by the spill are made whole.

In order to provide full transparency of the ongoing efforts and to ensure that the American public is not held accountable for the costs of response and recovery activities, the federal

government bills BP and the other responsible parties regularly. BP and other responsible parties have paid the first two bills in full—totaling \$70.89 million.

Secretary Salazar Swears In New Offshore Energy Management Leader

Secretary of the Interior Ken Salazar today swore-in former Justice Department Inspector General Michael Bromwich to lead reforms that will strengthen oversight and policing of offshore oil and gas development. Bromwich will oversee the fundamental restructuring of the former Minerals Management Service, which was responsible for overseeing oil and gas development on the Outer Continental Shelf.

A [Secretarial Order](#) (available at <http://www.doi.gov/deepwaterhorizon/loader.cfm?csModule=security/getfile&PageID=35872>) signed by Salazar renames the Minerals Management Service the Bureau of Ocean Energy Management, Regulation and Enforcement as it undergoes reorganization and reform.

NOAA Research Ship *Thomas Jefferson* Releases Initial Observations

The NOAA Ship *Thomas Jefferson* returned to Galveston, Texas, on June 11 from an eight-day research mission to investigate the presence and distribution of subsurface oil from the Deepwater Horizon/BP oil spill. While [initial observations](#) (see http://www.noaaneews.noaa.gov/stories2010/20100620_jefferson.html) found the presence of anomalies in the water column, further analysis of water samples from *Jefferson* and the NOAA Ship *Gordon Gunter* is required before drawing conclusions.

NOAA continues to conduct a variety of research missions to study the impacts of the BP oil spill on the Gulf of Mexico—part of the federal government’s ongoing effort to engage the best scientific minds to inform response and recovery efforts.

Federal and Local Officials Hold Open House Meeting for Louisiana Residents

As part of continued efforts to inform Louisiana residents on the BP oil spill response and available assistance, representatives from the Coast Guard, Fish and Wildlife Service, EPA and state and local governments today held their fourth open house meeting in Jefferson Parish. Experts from the various agencies participating in the BP oil spill response were on hand to discuss a variety of topics with Parish residents—including the claims process, volunteer and contracting opportunities, environmental quality, worker safety and the various tools, equipment and strategies being used in the response. Previous meetings were held in Cameron Parish, St. Bernard Parish, and St. Mary’s Parish.

NOAA Expands Fishing Restriction in the Gulf; More than 64 Percent Remains Open

As part of continued efforts to ensure the safety of seafood from the Gulf of Mexico and protect consumers, NOAA has expanded the closed fishing area in the Gulf of Mexico to capture portions of the oil slick moving beyond the current boundaries off the Florida panhandle and due south of Mississippi. The closed area now represents 86,985 square miles—approximately 36

percent—of federal waters in the Gulf of Mexico. This closure does not apply to any state waters. This leaves more than 64 percent of Gulf federal waters available for fishing. Details can be found at <http://sero.nmfs.noaa.gov/>.

Fish and Wildlife Continues Efforts to Recover and Rehabilitate Oiled Wildlife

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife is leading wildlife and habitat recovery efforts in response to the BP oil spill—which includes aerial and ground surveys to assess the damage and recover oiled or injured wildlife and rehabilitation centers, where animals are cared for in preparation for release into their natural habitat.

On Sunday, FWS released 38 brown pelicans and one tern at the Aransas National Wildlife Refuge and rescue and recovery teams responded to a total of 95 calls to the Wildlife Hot Line reporting oiled or injured wildlife along the Gulf Coast—including 25 in Alabama, nine in Louisiana, 20 in Florida, and six in Mississippi. To report oiled wildlife, call (866) 557-1401.

Successful Controlled Burn

In recent days, favorable weather conditions have allowed responders to conduct successful controlled burn operations. As part of a coordinated response that combines tactics deployed above water, below water, offshore, and close to coastal areas, controlled burns efficiently remove oil from the open water in an effort to protect shoreline and wildlife. In total, 255 burns have been conducted to remove more than 6.3 million gallons of oil from the water.

BP Continues to Optimize Oil Recovery Rates from its Leaking Well

Under the direction of the federal government, BP continues to capture some oil and burn gas at the surface using its containment dome technique.

In addition to the *Discoverer Enterprise*, which is linked by the riser pipe to the wellhead, and the *Q4000*, which continues to flare off additional oil and gas being brought up through the choke lines—a method that was also put in place at the government's direction.

Approved SBA Economic Injury Assistance Loans Surpass \$5.5 Million

SBA has approved 88 economic injury assistance loans to date, totaling more than \$5.58 million for small businesses in the Gulf Coast impacted by the BP oil spill. Additionally, the agency has granted deferments on 441 existing SBA disaster loans in the region, totaling more than \$1.96 million per month in payments. For information on assistance loans for affected businesses, visit the SBA's Web site at www.sba.gov/services/disasterassistance, call (800) 659-2955 (800-877-8339 for the hearing impaired), or email disastercustomerservice@sba.gov.

Administration Continues to Oversee BP's Claims Process

The administration will continue to hold the responsible parties accountable for repairing the damage, and repaying Americans who've suffered a financial loss as a result of the BP oil spill. To date, 66,825 claims have been opened, from which more than \$111.1 million have been

disbursed. No claims have been denied to date. There are 720 claims adjusters on the ground. To file a claim, visit www.bp.com/claims or call BP's helpline at 1-800-440-0858. Those who have already pursued the BP claims process and are not satisfied with BP's resolution can call the Coast Guard at (800) 280-7118. Additional information about the BP claims process and all available avenues of assistance can be found at www.disasterassistance.gov.

By the Numbers to Date:

- The administration has authorized the deployment of 17,500 National Guard troops from Gulf Coast states to respond to this crisis; to date, 1,612 have been activated.
- Approximately 33,900 personnel are currently responding to protect the shoreline and wildlife and cleanup vital coastlines.
- More than 6,000 vessels are currently responding on site, including skimmers, tugs, barges, and recovery vessels to assist in containment and cleanup efforts—in addition to dozens of aircraft, remotely operated vehicles, and multiple mobile offshore drilling units.
- Approximately 2.51 million feet of containment boom and 4.04 million feet of sorbent boom have been deployed to contain the spill—and approximately 585,000 feet of containment boom and 2 million feet of sorbent boom are available.
- Approximately 24 million gallons of an oil-water mix have been recovered.
- Approximately 1.43 million gallons of total dispersant have been applied—959,000 on the surface and 468,000 subsea. More than 465,000 gallons are available.
- 255 controlled burns have been conducted, efficiently removing a total of more than 6.32 million gallons of oil from the open water in an effort to protect shoreline and wildlife.
- 17 staging areas are in place to protect sensitive shorelines.
- Approximately 173 miles of Gulf Coast shoreline is currently oiled—approximately 34 miles in Louisiana, 41 miles in Mississippi, 39 miles in Alabama, and 59 miles in Florida. These numbers reflect a daily snapshot of shoreline currently experiencing impacts from oil so that planning and field operations can more quickly respond to new impacts; they do not include cumulative impacts to date, or shoreline that has already been cleared.
- Approximately 87,000 square miles of Gulf of Mexico federal waters remain closed to fishing in order to balance economic and public health concerns. Sixty-four percent remains open. Details can be found at <http://sero.nmfs.noaa.gov/>.
- To date, the administration has leveraged assets and skills from numerous foreign countries and international organizations as part of this historic, all-hands-on-deck response, including Canada, Germany, Mexico, Netherlands, Norway, the United Nations' International Maritime Organization and the European Union's Monitoring and Information Centre.

SUNDAY, JUNE 20

BP Continues to Optimize Oil Recovery Rates from its Leaking Well

Under the direction of the federal government, BP continues to capture some oil and burn gas at the surface using its containment dome technique.

In addition to the *Discoverer Enterprise*, which is linked by the riser pipe to the wellhead, a second recovery vessel, the *Q4000*, continues to flare off additional oil and gas being brought up through the choke and kill lines—a method that was also put in place at the government's direction.

Progress Continues in Drilling Relief Wells

The *Development Driller III* continues to drill the first relief well to a depth of approximately 11,000 feet below the sea floor, and crews have begun the process of cementing and casing the well liner. The *Development Driller II* has drilled the second relief well—a redundancy measure taken at the direction of the administration—to a depth of approximately 5,000 feet below the sea floor.

Florida Command Post Partners with Volunteer Organization to Boost Cleanup Effort

In response to growing public interest about opportunities to participate in the nation's largest oil spill cleanup effort, the Florida Peninsula Command Post has partnered with [Volunteer Florida](http://www.volunteerflorida.org), (see <http://www.deepwaterhorizonresponse.com/volunteerflorida.org>) a state-based volunteer organization, to match local volunteers with local volunteer groups. For more information about other non-paid, volunteer opportunities, as well as paid positions that require additional training and/or expertise, visit www.deepwaterhorizonresponse.com.

EPA Continues to Conduct Air, Water and Sediment Monitoring in the Gulf.

EPA is conducting additional air monitoring for ozone and airborne particulate matter. The air monitoring conducted through June 18 has found levels of ozone and particulates ranging from the "good" to "unhealthy for sensitive groups" levels on EPA's Air Quality Index.

EPA's analysis of surface water along the Gulf coast found elevated levels of nickel above benchmark levels for aquatic life in samples collected on June 11-13, 2010. This might affect fish and shellfish exposed for an extended period.

Successful Controlled Burn

In recent days, favorable weather conditions have allowed responders to conduct successful controlled burn operations. As part of a coordinated response that combines tactics deployed above water, below water, offshore, and close to coastal areas, controlled burns efficiently remove oil from the open water in an effort to protect shoreline and wildlife. In total, 250 burns have been conducted to remove more than 6.3 million gallons of oil from the water.

Administration Continues to Oversee BP's Claims Process

The administration will continue to hold the responsible parties accountable for repairing the damage, and repaying Americans who've suffered a financial loss as a result of the BP oil spill. To date, 65,703 claims have been opened, from which more than \$107.4 million have been

disbursed. No claims have been denied to date. There are 720 claims adjusters on the ground. To file a claim, visit www.bp.com/claims or call BP's helpline at 1-800-440-0858. Those who have already pursued the BP claims process and are not satisfied with BP's resolution can call the Coast Guard at (800) 280-7118. Additional information about the BP claims process and all available avenues of assistance can be found at www.disasterassistance.gov.

By the Numbers to Date:

- The administration has authorized the deployment of 17,500 National Guard troops from Gulf Coast states to respond to this crisis; to date, 1,612 have been activated.
- Approximately 33,700 personnel are currently responding to protect the shoreline and wildlife and cleanup vital coastlines.
- More than 6,300 vessels are currently responding on site, including skimmers, tugs, barges, and recovery vessels to assist in containment and cleanup efforts—in addition to dozens of aircraft, remotely operated vehicles, and multiple mobile offshore drilling units.
- Approximately 2.47 million feet of containment boom and 3.91 million feet of sorbent boom have been deployed to contain the spill—and approximately 50,000 feet of containment boom and 1.91 million feet of sorbent boom are available.
- Approximately 23.5 million gallons of an oil-water mix have been recovered.
- Approximately 1.39 million gallons of total dispersant have been applied—939,000 on the surface and 454,000 subsea. More than 470,000 gallons are available.
- 250 controlled burns have been conducted, efficiently removing a total of more than 6.32 million gallons of oil from the open water in an effort to protect shoreline and wildlife.
- 17 staging areas are in place to protect sensitive shorelines.
- Approximately 59 miles of Gulf Coast shoreline is currently experiencing impacts from BP's leaking oil—approximately 34 miles in Louisiana, four miles in Mississippi, nine miles in Alabama, and 12 miles in Florida.
- Approximately 80,800 square miles of Gulf of Mexico federal waters remain closed to fishing in order to balance economic and public health concerns. More than 66 percent remain open. Details can be found at <http://sero.nmfs.noaa.gov/>.
- To date, the administration has leveraged assets and skills from numerous foreign countries and international organizations as part of this historic, all-hands-on-deck response, including Canada, Germany, Mexico, Netherlands, Norway, the United Nations' International Maritime Organization and the European Union's Monitoring and Information Centre.

SATURDAY, JUNE 19

BP Continues to Optimize Oil Recovery Rates from its Leaking Well

BP continues to capture some oil and burn gas at the surface using its containment dome technique, which is being executed under the federal government's direction. In addition to the *Discoverer Enterprise*, which is linked by the riser pipe to the wellhead, a second recovery vessel, the *Q4000*, continues to flare off additional oil and gas being brought up

through the choke and kill lines—a method that was also put in place at the government's direction.

Progress Continues in Drilling Relief Wells

The *Development Driller III* continues to drill the first relief well to a depth of approximately 11,000 feet below the sea floor, and crews have begun the process of cementing and casing the well liner. The *Development Driller II* has drilled the second relief well—a redundancy measure taken at the direction of the administration—to a depth of approximately 5,000 feet below the sea floor.

Interior Department Reaches Nearly 1,000 Personnel Deployed to Gulf Response

The Department of the Interior has deployed nearly 1,000 total personnel as part of the administration-wide response to the BP oil spill—including approximately 500 from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, 170 from the Minerals Management Service, nearly 200 from the National Park Service and approximately 70 from the U.S. Geological Survey, in addition to senior officials engaged both in Washington and leading DOI efforts along the Gulf Coast, with all actions coordinated by National Incident Commander Admiral Thad Allen.

Volunteers Receive Training to Help National Park Visitors Understand the Oil Spill

Community volunteers will start joining National Park Service rangers on the shores of Gulf Islands National Seashore to talk with summer visitors about the oil spill's effects on the barrier islands and their natural and cultural resources. Prior to working on the beaches, the volunteers will receive training from NPS rangers, biologists and communications specialists. Join this training to film/interview community members who will learn the knowledge and techniques to provide key information to beach goers related to health and safety, recreational opportunities, and resource protection messages.

EPA Continues to Conduct Air, Water and Sediment Monitoring in the Gulf.

EPA is conducting additional air monitoring for ozone and airborne particulate matter. The air monitoring conducted through June 17 has found levels of ozone and particulates ranging from the "good" to "unhealthy for sensitive groups" levels on EPA's Air Quality Index. EPA's recent surface water results collected along the Gulf Coast have found the combination of oil related organic compounds to exceed chronic aquatic life benchmarks. These are levels that could impact the health, growth or reproductive activity of aquatic life if exposed for an extended period of time.

Administration Continues to Oversee BP's Claims Process

The administration will continue to hold the responsible parties accountable for repairing the damage, and repaying Americans who've suffered a financial loss as a result of the BP oil spill. 64,536 claims have been opened, from which more than \$104.4 million have been disbursed. No claims have been denied to date. There are 698 claims adjusters on the ground. To

file a claim, visit www.bp.com/claims or call BP's helpline at 1-800-440-0858. Those who have already pursued the BP claims process and are not satisfied with BP's resolution can call the Coast Guard at (800) 280-7118. Additional information about the BP claims process and all available avenues of assistance can be found at www.disasterassistance.gov.

By the Numbers to Date:

- The administration has authorized the deployment of 17,500 National Guard troops from Gulf Coast states to respond to this crisis; to date, 1,612 have been activated.
- Approximately 33,000 personnel are currently responding to protect the shoreline and wildlife and cleanup vital coastlines.
- More than 6,300 vessels are currently responding on site, including skimmers, tugs, barges, and recovery vessels to assist in containment and cleanup efforts—in addition to dozens of aircraft, remotely operated vehicles, and multiple mobile offshore drilling units.
- Approximately 2.44 million feet of containment boom and 3.87 million feet of sorbent boom have been deployed to contain the spill—and approximately 544,000 feet of containment boom and 1.88 million feet of sorbent boom are available.
- Approximately 22.9 million gallons of an oil-water mix have been recovered.
- Approximately 1.36 million gallons of total dispersant have been applied—931,000 on the surface and 436,000 subsea. More than 500,000 gallons are available.
- 244 controlled burns have been conducted, efficiently removing a total of more than 5.25 million gallons of oil from the open water in an effort to protect shoreline and wildlife.
- 17 staging areas are in place to protect sensitive shorelines.
- Approximately 59 miles of Gulf Coast shoreline is currently experiencing impacts from BP's leaking oil—approximately 34 miles in Louisiana, four miles in Mississippi, nine miles in Alabama, and 12 miles in Florida.
- Approximately 80,800 square miles of Gulf of Mexico federal waters remain closed to fishing in order to balance economic and public health concerns. More than 66 percent remain open. Details can be found at <http://sero.nmfs.noaa.gov/>.
- To date, the administration has leveraged assets and skills from numerous foreign countries and international organizations as part of this historic, all-hands-on-deck response, including Canada, Germany, Mexico, Netherlands, Norway, the United Nations' International Maritime Organization and the European Union's Monitoring and Information Centre.

FRIDAY JUNE 18, 2010

Admiral Allen Provides Operational Update on the BP Oil Spill Response

National Incident Commander Admiral Thad Allen provided a briefing from the Unified Area Command in New Orleans to inform the American public and answer questions on the progress of the administration-wide response to the BP oil spill. A transcript is available [here](#).

BP Continues to Optimize Oil Recovery Rates from its Leaking Well

BP continues to increase the amount of captured oil and burn more gas at the surface using its containment dome technique, which is being executed under the federal government's direction. In addition to the *Discoverer Enterprise*, which is linked by the riser pipe to the wellhead, a second recovery vessel, the *Q4000*, continues to flare off additional oil and gas being brought up through the choke and kill lines—a method that was also put in place at the government's direction. Nearly 30,000 barrels were recovered in the most recent 24-hour period.

Progress Continues in Drilling Relief Wells

The *Development Driller III* continues to drill the first relief well to a depth of more than 10,600 feet below the sea floor. The *Development Driller II* has drilled the second relief well—a redundancy measure taken at the direction of the federal government—to a depth of more than 4,600 feet below the sea floor.

National Parks Service Reaches 179 Staff Deployed to Protect Vital Parkland

In the Gulf of Mexico, the Department of the Interior protects eight national parks and 36 wildlife refuges, from Texas to Florida. NPS has dispatched 179 staff as part of the BP oil spill response. The National Park Service has deployed incident management personnel from across the country to assess and clean up oil impacts, protect the park's critical natural and cultural resources—including wildlife, birds, and historic structure—and serve the visiting public.

Fish and Wildlife Service Reaches 495 Staff Deployed to Protect Vital Wildlife

The Fish and Wildlife Service continues to coordinate and supervise search and capture for oiled wildlife—conducting aerial flights to identify oiled wildlife and helping facilitate recovery and treatment, and leading numerous bird survey teams in Louisiana, Mississippi, Alabama, and Florida to determine the extent of the oil impact on birds and other wildlife. FWS has dispatched 495 staff to deal with Gulf response efforts.

Successful Controlled Burn

In recent days, favorable weather conditions have allowed responders to conduct successful controlled burn operations. As part of a coordinated response that combines tactics deployed above water, below water, offshore, and close to coastal areas, controlled burns efficiently remove oil from the open water in an effort to protect shoreline and wildlife. In total, more than 225 burns have been conducted to remove more than five million gallons of oil from the water.

Approved SBA Economic Injury Assistance Loans Surpass \$4.7 Million

SBA has approved 74 economic injury assistance loans to date, totaling more than \$4.7 million for small businesses in the Gulf Coast impacted by the BP oil spill. Additionally, the agency has granted deferments on 434 existing SBA disaster loans in the region, totaling more than \$1.9 million per month in payments. For information on assistance loans for affected businesses, visit

the SBA's Web site at www.sba.gov/services/disasterassistance, call (800) 659-2955 (800-877-8339 for the hearing impaired), or email disastercustomerservice@sba.gov.

Administration Continues to Oversee BP's Claims Process

The administration will continue to hold the responsible parties accountable for repairing the damage, and repaying Americans who've suffered a financial loss as a result of the BP oil spill. BP reports that 62,004 claims have been opened, from which more than \$89.8 million have been disbursed. No claims have been denied to date. There are 698 claims adjusters on the ground. To file a claim, visit www.bp.com/claims or call BP's helpline at 1-800-440-0858. Those who have already pursued the BP claims process and are not satisfied with BP's resolution can call the Coast Guard at (800) 280-7118. Additional information about the BP claims process and all available avenues of assistance can be found at www.disasterassistance.gov.

By the Numbers to Date:

- The administration has authorized the deployment of 17,500 National Guard troops from Gulf Coast states to respond to this crisis; to date, 1,612 have been activated.
- Approximately 31,000 personnel are currently responding to protect the shoreline and wildlife and cleanup vital coastlines.
- More than 6,200 vessels are currently responding on site, including skimmers, tugs, barges, and recovery vessels to assist in containment and cleanup efforts—in addition to dozens of aircraft, remotely operated vehicles, and multiple mobile offshore drilling units.
- Approximately 2.42 million feet of containment boom and 3.77 million feet of sorbent boom have been deployed to contain the spill—and approximately 492,000 feet of containment boom and 2.03 million feet of sorbent boom are available.
- Approximately 22.3 million gallons of an oil-water mix have been recovered.
- Approximately 1.34 million gallons of total dispersant have been applied—915,000 on the surface and 429,000 subsea. More than 530,000 gallons are available.
- More than 225 controlled burns have been conducted, efficiently removing a total of more than 5.25 million gallons of oil from the open water in an effort to protect shoreline and wildlife.
- 17 staging areas are in place to protect sensitive shorelines.
- Approximately 61 miles of Gulf Coast shoreline is currently experiencing impacts from BP's leaking oil—approximately 35 miles in Louisiana, four miles in Mississippi, nine miles in Alabama, and 13 miles in Florida.
- Approximately 80,800 square miles of Gulf of Mexico federal waters remain closed to fishing in order to balance economic and public health concerns. More than 66 percent remain open. Details can be found at <http://sero.nmfs.noaa.gov/>.
- To date, the administration has leveraged assets and skills from numerous foreign countries and international organizations as part of this historic, all-hands-on-deck response, including Canada, Germany, Mexico, Netherlands, Norway, the United Nations' International Maritime Organization and the European Union's Monitoring and Information Centre.
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THURSDAY JUNE 17

Admiral Allen Provides Operational Update on the BP Oil Spill Response

National Incident Commander Admiral Thad Allen provided a briefing by teleconference to inform the American public and answer questions on the progress of the administration-wide response to the BP oil spill. A transcript is available at <http://www.deepwaterhorizonresponse.com/go/doc/2931/671291/>. Later in the day in Port Sulphur, La., Admiral Allen provided a second briefing after returning from an airboat tour of Barataria Bay.

Federal and Local Officials Hold Third Open House Meeting for Louisiana Residents

Representatives from the Coast Guard, Fish and Wildlife Service, the Environmental Protection Agency and state and local governments held the third in a series of open house meetings for Louisiana residents in St. Mary's Parish—providing an opportunity for those affected by the BP oil spill to engage one-on-one with experts to discuss a variety of topics, including the claims process, volunteer and contracting opportunities, environmental quality, worker safety and the various tools, equipment and strategies being used in the response. Two additional meetings were held this week in Cameron Parish and St. Bernard Parish.

EPA Hosts Conference Call on Air Quality with Gulf Coast Stakeholders

EPA officials hosted a conference call today with community and environmental groups in Louisiana to discuss the short- and long-term effects of the BP oil spill on air quality in the Gulf. EPA continues to monitor air, water and sediment quality in the region. According to the most recent data, air quality levels for ozone and particulates are normal on the Gulf coastline for this time of year. The most recent water and sediment samples did not reveal elevated levels for chemicals that are usually found in oil.

EPA has observed odor-causing pollutants associated with petroleum products along the coastline at low levels. Some of these chemicals may cause short-lived effects like headache, eye, nose and throat irritation, or nausea. People may be able to smell some of these chemicals at levels well below those that would cause short-term health problems. Anyone experiencing these and other symptoms should call the Medical Support Hotline at (888) 623-0287.

SCAT Teams Continue to Monitor and Cleanup Impacted Shorelines

More than 40 Shoreline Cleanup Assessment Teams (SCAT)—federal, state and BP officials working to assess and determine how cleanup will be conducted, and oversee cleanup operations—continue to monitor and cleanup shorelines along the Alabama, Louisiana, Mississippi and Florida coastlines.

BP Continues to Capture Some Oil and Gas Using Containment Device

BP continues to capture some oil and burn some gas at the surface using its containment dome technique, which is being executed under the federal government's direction. After cutting off a portion of the riser, BP placed a containment device over it in order to capture oil at its source.

Approved SBA Economic Injury Assistance Loans Surpass \$4 Million

SBA has approved 71 economic injury assistance loans to date, totaling more than \$4.15 million for small businesses in the Gulf Coast impacted by the BP oil spill. Additionally, the agency has granted deferments on 411 existing SBA disaster loans in the region, totaling more than \$1.79 million per month in payments. For information on assistance loans for affected businesses, visit the SBA's Web site at www.sba.gov/services/disasterassistance, call (800) 659-2955 (800-877-8339 for the hearing impaired), or email disastercustomerservice@sba.gov.

Administration Continues to Oversee BP's Claims Process

The administration will continue to hold the responsible parties accountable for repairing the damage, and repaying Americans who've suffered a financial loss as a result of the BP oil spill. BP reports that 59,297 claims have been opened, from which more than \$89.8 million have been disbursed. No claims have been denied to date. There are 667 claims adjusters on the ground. To file a claim, visit www.bp.com/claims or call BP's helpline at 1-800-440-0858. Those who have already pursued the BP claims process and are not satisfied with BP's resolution can call the Coast Guard at (800) 280-7118. Additional information about the BP claims process and all available avenues of assistance can be found at www.disasterassistance.gov

By the Numbers to Date:

- The administration has authorized the deployment of 17,500 National Guard troops from Gulf Coast states to respond to this crisis; to date, 1,610 have been activated.
- Approximately 31,000 personnel are currently responding to protect the shoreline and wildlife and cleanup vital coastlines.
- More than 6,400 vessels are currently responding on site, including skimmers, tugs, barges, and recovery vessels to assist in containment and cleanup efforts—in addition to dozens of aircraft, remotely operated vehicles, and multiple mobile offshore drilling units.
- Approximately 2.42 million feet of containment boom and 3.65 million feet of sorbent boom have been deployed to contain the spill—and approximately 489,000 feet of containment boom and 1.97 million feet of sorbent boom are available.
- Approximately 21.9 million gallons of an oil-water mix have been recovered.
- Approximately 1.33 million gallons of total dispersant have been applied—903,000 on the surface and 423,000 subsea. More than 500,000 gallons are available.
- More than 220 controlled burns have been conducted, efficiently removing a total of more than 5.2 million gallons of oil from the open water in an effort to protect shoreline and wildlife.
- 17 staging areas are in place to protect sensitive shorelines.

- Approximately 80,800 square miles of Gulf of Mexico federal waters remain closed to fishing in order to balance economic and public health concerns. More than 66 percent remain open. Details can be found at <http://sero.nmfs.noaa.gov/>.
- To date, the administration has leveraged assets and skills from numerous foreign countries and international organizations as part of this historic, all-hands-on-deck response, including Canada, Germany, Mexico, Netherlands, Norway, the United Nations' International Maritime Organization and the European Union's Monitoring and Information Centre.

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 16, 2010

President Obama and Top Administration Officials Hold Meeting with BP at White House

President Obama and top administration officials today met with BP Chairman Carl-Henric Svanberg, CEO Tony Hayward and other top BP officials in the Roosevelt Room at the White House. They discussed the ongoing efforts to stop the oil leaking into the Gulf of Mexico and BP's responsibility not only to pay for the cost of the cleanup of the oil spill, but also to compensate residents and businesses that have suffered financially as a result of the oil spill.

In [remarks](#) after the meeting, the President announced that BP has agreed to set aside \$20 billion in an [escrow account](#) to pay economic damage claims to people and businesses that have been affected by the oil spill, and that BP and the Administration agreed to appoint Ken Feinberg, who administered the claims process for victims of 9/11, to run the independent claims process.

President Obama Sends Letter to Congress on Budget Amendment for BP Oil Spill Commission

In a [letter](#) to Speaker of the House Nancy Pelosi, President Obama requested that Congress consider a budget amendment proposal for Fiscal Year 2011—for the National Commission on the BP Deepwater Horizon Oil Spill, which the President established by Executive Order to provide for a comprehensive look at how the oil and gas industry operates and how it is regulated.

Admiral Allen, Press Secretary Gibbs and Assistant to the President Carol Browner Hold Briefing at White House

National Incident Commander Admiral Thad Allen, White House Press Secretary Robert Gibbs and Carol Browner, Assistant to the President for Energy and Climate Change, provided a briefing at the White House to inform the American public and answer questions on the progress of the administration-wide response to the BP oil spill. A transcript is available [here](#).

Secretary Salazar Meets with Gulf Coast Elected Officials to Discuss BP Oil Spill Response

Department of Interior Secretary Ken Salazar today held meetings with Gulf Coast elected officials to discuss the administration's ongoing response to the BP oil spill and ways to reform off-shore drilling practices to improve safety. Salazar met with House and Senate Members from

Texas, Louisiana, Alabama, and Mississippi on Capitol Hill and later met with Louisiana officials—U.S. Senator Landrieu, Lt. Governor Scott Angelle, and Parish Presidents—at the Department of Interior.

NOAA Expands Fishing Closed Area in Gulf of Mexico; More than Sixty-Six Percent of Gulf Federal Waters Remain Open

As part of continued efforts to ensure the safety of seafood from the Gulf of Mexico and protect consumers, NOAA has expanded the closed fishing area to capture portions of the oil slick moving beyond the area's current northern boundary, off the Florida panhandle's federal-state waterline. This boundary was moved just to the west of St. Joe Bay and Panama City Beach.

The closed area now represents 80,806 square miles—approximately 33.4 percent—of federal waters in the Gulf of Mexico—this closure does not apply to any state waters. This leaves more than 66 percent of Gulf federal waters available for fishing. Details can be found at <http://sero.nmfs.noaa.gov/>.

Federal and Local Officials Hold Open House Meetings for Louisiana Residents

Representatives from the Coast Guard, Fish and Wildlife Service, EPA and other state and local partner agencies participating in the ongoing response effort to the BP oil spill today held the second in a series of open house meetings in Louisiana in Cameron Parish. The meetings are an opportunity for local residents to meet with experts and hear firsthand about the claims process, volunteer and contracting opportunities, environmental quality, worker safety and the various tools, equipment and strategies being used in the response. The first meeting was held yesterday in St. Bernard Parish, and a third is scheduled tomorrow in St. Mary's Parish. Click [here](#) for more info.

BP Continues to Capture Some Oil and Gas Using Containment Device

BP continues to capture some oil and burn some gas at the surface using its containment dome technique, which is being executed under the federal government's direction. After cutting off a portion of the riser, BP placed a containment device over it in order to capture oil at its source.

Progress Continues in Drilling Relief Wells

The *Development Driller III* continues to drill the first relief well to a depth of more than 15,000 feet—11 days ahead of schedule—and is beginning to angle the well at 23 degrees. The *Development Driller II* has drilled the second relief well to a depth of 9,774 feet.

Successful Controlled Burn

In recent days, favorable weather conditions have allowed responders to conduct successful controlled burn operations. As part of a coordinated response that combines tactics deployed above water, below water, offshore, and close to coastal areas, controlled burns efficiently remove oil from the open water in an effort to protect shoreline and wildlife. In total, more than

210 burns have been conducted to remove a total of 5.2 million gallons of oil from the water to date.

Approved SBA Economic Injury Assistance Loans Surpass \$4 Million

SBA has approved 69 economic injury assistance loans to date, totaling more than \$4 million for small businesses in the Gulf Coast impacted by the BP oil spill. Additionally, the agency has granted deferments on 393 existing SBA disaster loans in the region, totaling more than \$1.76 million per month in payments. For information on assistance loans for affected businesses, visit the SBA's Web site at www.sba.gov/services/disasterassistance, call (800) 659-2955 (800-877-8339 for the hearing impaired), or email disastercustomerservice@sba.gov.

Administration Continues to Oversee BP's Claims Process

The administration will continue to hold the responsible parties accountable for repairing the damage, and repaying Americans who've suffered a financial loss as a result of the BP oil spill. BP reports that 56,689 claims have been opened, from which more than \$81.3 million have been disbursed. No claims have been denied to date. There are 667 claims adjusters on the ground. To file a claim, visit www.bp.com/claims or call BP's helpline at 1-800-440-0858. Those who have already pursued the BP claims process and are not satisfied with BP's resolution can call the Coast Guard at (800) 280-7118. Additional information about the BP claims process and all available avenues of assistance can be found at www.disasterassistance.gov.

By the Numbers to Date:

- The administration has authorized the deployment of 17,500 National Guard troops from Gulf Coast states to respond to this crisis; to date, 1,611 have been activated.
- Approximately 31,000 personnel are currently responding to protect the shoreline and wildlife and cleanup vital coastlines.
- More than 5,000* vessels are currently responding on site, including skimmers, tugs, barges, and recovery vessels to assist in containment and cleanup efforts—in addition to dozens of aircraft, remotely operated vehicles, and multiple mobile offshore drilling units.
- Approximately 2.39 million feet of containment boom and 3.48 million feet of sorbent boom have been deployed to contain the spill—and approximately 468,000 feet of containment boom and 1.8 million feet of sorbent boom are available.
- Approximately 21.2 million gallons of an oil-water mix have been recovered.
- Approximately 1.3 million gallons of total dispersant have been applied—885,000 on the surface and 414,000 subsea. More than 505,000 gallons are available.
- More than 210 controlled burns have been conducted, efficiently removing a total of more than 5.2 million gallons of oil from the open water in an effort to protect shoreline and wildlife.
- 17 staging areas are in place to protect sensitive shorelines.
- Approximately 52.6 miles of Gulf Coast shoreline is currently experiencing impacts from BP's leaking oil—34.8 miles in Louisiana, 0.9 miles in Mississippi, 9.9 miles in Alabama, and 7 miles in Florida.

- Approximately 80,800 square miles of Gulf of Mexico federal waters remain closed to fishing in order to balance economic and public health concerns. More than 66 percent remain open. Details can be found at <http://sero.nmfs.noaa.gov/>.
- To date, the administration has leveraged assets and skills from numerous foreign countries and international organizations as part of this historic, all-hands-on-deck response, including Canada, Germany, Mexico, Netherlands, Norway, the United Nations' International Maritime Organization and the European Union's Monitoring and Information Centre.

* *The total vessels number reported in the June 15 update contained a reporting error.*

TUESDAY JUNE 15, 2010

The President Addresses the American People on the Ongoing Historic Response

In his first Oval Office address of his presidency, President Obama outlined his commitment to fighting the full impacts of the BP oil spill with everything we've got for as long as it takes.

Response to the Oil Spill

The President outlined the strength of the largest environmental cleanup effort in American history to confront what is the worst environmental disaster America has ever faced. From day one, the Obama Administration has been committed to containing the damage from the BP oil spill and extending to the people of the Gulf the help they need to confront what is the worst environmental disaster America has ever faced. And we will continue to fight this spill with everything we've got for as long as it takes. We will make BP pay for the damage that their company has caused our country. And we will do whatever's necessary to help the Gulf Coast and its people recover from this tragedy.

Recovery and Restoration

The President announced that Navy Secretary Ray Mabus will develop a long-term Gulf Coast Restoration Plan—designed by states, local communities, tribes, fishermen, businesses, conservationists, and other Gulf residents. The administration continues to work with the affected states to implement creative approaches to their unique coastlines, and will offer whatever additional resources and assistance they may need.

The President is meeting tomorrow with the chairman of BP and will inform him that he is to set aside whatever resources are required to compensate the workers and business owners who have been harmed as a result of his company's recklessness. This fund will not be controlled by BP, but instead by an independent third party in order to ensure all legitimate claims are paid out in a fair and timely manner.

Preventing Future Disasters

The President laid out the steps the administration is taking to ensure a disaster like this does not happen again—including the establishment of a National Commission to understand the causes of this disaster and offer recommendations on what additional safety and environmental standards need to be put in place; and tough reforms to ensure more effective oversight and end the close relationship between oil companies and the agency that regulates them.

Our Country's Energy Future

The President stressed the need for urgent action to move forward with innovative energy policies that will ensure the end of America's reliance on fossil fuels and a clean energy future. This Administration has taken unprecedented action to jumpstart the clean energy industry, and the President emphasized the need to match these actions by a comprehensive plan that transitions the United States to a 21st-century clean-energy economy—and committed to working with partners of both parties in Congress to get it done.

The President Announces His Selection to Fix Oil Industry Oversight

The President today announced his selection of former Assistant U.S. Attorney and Justice Department Inspector General Michael R. Bromwich to lead the administration's efforts to accelerate reforms in the regulation and oversight of offshore oil drilling. Bromwich will oversee reforms of the Minerals Management Service, restoring integrity and rigor to the relationship between federal regulatory officials and oil companies.

President Obama Wraps Up His Fourth Trip to Gulf Coast

Continuing his fourth trip to the Gulf Coast, President Obama spent the morning in Florida, where he received a briefing from National Incident Commander Admiral Thad Allen and met with local officials to discuss efforts to fight the BP oil spill on Pensacola Beach. Before returning to Washington, the President delivered remarks at an event with military personnel at the Naval Air Station Pensacola's Naval Air Technical Training Center—discussing the overall response and the vital contributions of America's military forces.

U.S. Scientific Team Draws on New Data, Multiple Scientific Methodologies to Reach Updated Estimate of Oil Flows from BP's Well

Based on updated information and scientific assessments, Energy Secretary Steven Chu, Interior Secretary Ken Salazar, and Chair of the National Incident Command's Flow Rate Technical Group (FRTG) Dr. Marcia McNutt (Director of the U.S. Geological Survey) announced an improved estimate of how much oil is flowing from the leaking BP well.

Secretary Chu, Secretary Salazar, and Dr. McNutt convened a group of federal and independent scientists on Monday to discuss new analyses and data points obtained over the weekend to produce updated flow rate estimates. Working together, U.S. government and independent scientists estimate that the most likely flow rate of oil today is between 35,000 and 60,000 barrels per day. The improved estimate is based on more and better data that is now available and that helps increase the scientific confidence in the accuracy of the estimate.

At the Government's Direction, BP Makes Progress in Expanding Containment Capacity

Under the federal government's direction, BP is implementing multiple strategies to significantly expand the leak containment capabilities at the sea floor even beyond the upper level of the improved flow rate estimate. The Lower Marine Riser Package cap that is currently in place can capture up to 18,000 barrels of oil per day. BP is deploying a second containment option, called the Q4000, which could expand total leak containment capacity to 20,000-28,000 barrels per day. Overall, the leak containment strategy that BP was required by the federal government to develop projects an expanded containment capacity to 40,000-53,000 barrels per day by the end of June and 60,000-80,000 barrels per day by mid-July.

Admiral Allen Ensures Expedited Jones Act Waiver Processing Should It Be Needed

Admiral Allen announced the development of specific guidance to ensure accelerated processing of requests for Jones Act waivers should they be received as a part of the BP oil spill response. Currently, 15 foreign-flagged vessels are involved in cleanup efforts. No Jones Act waivers have been granted because none of these vessels have required such a waiver to conduct their operations in the Gulf of Mexico.

To date, the administration has leveraged assets and skills from numerous foreign countries and international organizations as part of this historic, all-hands-on-deck response, including Canada, Germany, Mexico, Netherlands, Norway, the United Nations' International Maritime Organization and the European Union's Monitoring and Information Centre.

Administration Convenes Oil Industry Executives to Assist Response Efforts

At the direction of the President, Secretary Salazar and Secretary Chu convened a meeting with oil industry executives to review BP's updated containment plans and identify additional resources that could be brought to bear to build upon what is already the *largest* cleanup effort in the *nation's history*. While the companies have already offered and provided expertise and resources, the meeting was an opportunity to update those efforts based on the expanded and accelerated containment plan that the government recently directed BP to develop.

EPA Holds Stakeholder Call on Environmental Justice Issues Related to BP Spill

EPA Administrator Lisa Jackson joined other top EPA officials to participate in the National Environmental Justice Advisory Council (NEJAC) public teleconference meeting to discuss the agency's preparedness and response to the BP oil spill. NEJAC is EPA's independent advisory committee on environmental issues affecting underrepresented groups—with representatives from community, academia, industry, environmental, indigenous, as well as state, local, and tribal government groups—who meet to discuss how to define and find solutions to environmental justice problems.

NOAA Ship *Thomas Jefferson* Returns to Sea for Second Research Mission

Building upon research from its first mission and research from the NOAA Ship *Gordon Gunter*, the 208-foot *Thomas Jefferson* today departed Galveston, Texas, to continue research on the BP oil spill's impact on the Gulf of Mexico. During the three-week mission, the research vessel will collect air samples in the areas around the well head and use sophisticated acoustic and water chemistry monitoring instruments to detect and map submerged oil.

EPA Continues to Monitor Air, Water and Sediment Quality in the Gulf

According to the most recent sample data, the Environmental Protection Agency found elevated levels of nickel above benchmark levels for aquatic life. This might affect fish and shellfish exposed for an extended period. It is unlikely that the contamination resulted from the BP Spill. The most recent sediment samples indicate that there may be risks to aquatic life from pollutants in sediment at some locations. It is unknown whether the sediment contamination resulted from the BP Spill or was already present. For more information, visit www.epa.gov/bpoilspill.

Admiral Allen Establishes Officials to Lead Response for Alabama, Mississippi and Florida

At the authorization of the President and Homeland Security Secretary Janet Napolitano, National Incident Commander Admiral Thad Allen has directed the establishment of three Deputy Incident Commanders to lead oil impact mitigation and cleanup efforts in Alabama, Mississippi and Florida.

These officials will serve under the Mobile, Ala., Incident Command Post, which reports to the Unified Area Command based in Louisiana. Placing these Deputy Incident Commanders across affected Gulf Coast states will further increase the administration's capabilities to coordinate closely with local governments and meet the needs of individual communities

NOAA and Coast Guard Seize Shrimp Taken from Closed Fishing Area in Gulf

As part of continued efforts to ensure the safety of seafood from the Gulf of Mexico and protect consumers, NOAA and the Coast Guard today announced that approximately 19,000 pounds of shrimp caught in a closed fishing area 13 miles south of Belle Pass, La., was seized over the weekend as a result of a tip received on the NOAA Office of Law Enforcement Hotline. To date, 78,264 square miles—approximately 32 percent—of federal waters in the Gulf of Mexico have been closed to commercial and recreational fishing as a precautionary measure to ensure that seafood from the Gulf remains safe for consumers. The closed area does not apply to any state waters. Details can be found at <http://sero.nmfs.noaa.gov/>. Fisherman and consumers are encouraged to report potential seafood safety issues to (888) INFO-FDA.

Approved SBA Economic Injury Assistance Loans Surpass \$3.9 Million

SBA has approved 66 economic injury assistance loans to date, totaling more than \$3.9 million for small businesses in the Gulf Coast impacted by the BP oil spill. Additionally, the agency has granted deferments on 386 existing SBA disaster loans in the region, totaling more than \$1.75 per month in payments. For information on assistance loans for affected businesses, visit the

SBA's Web site at www.sba.gov/services/disasterassistance, call (800) 659-2955 (800-877-8339 for the hearing impaired), or email disastercustomerservice@sba.gov.

Administration Continues to Oversee BP's Claims Process

The administration will continue to hold the responsible parties accountable for repairing the damage, and repaying Americans who've suffered a financial loss as a result of the BP oil spill. BP reports that 54,400 claims have been opened, from which more than \$70.3 million have been disbursed. No claims have been denied to date. There are 671 claims adjusters on the ground. To file a claim, visit www.bp.com/claims or call BP's helpline at 1-800-440-0858. Those who have already pursued the BP claims process and are not satisfied with BP's resolution can call the Coast Guard at (800) 280-7118. Additional information about the BP claims process and all available avenues of assistance can be found at www.disasterassistance.gov.

Administration Holds its Second Meeting with BP Claims Officials, in Mississippi

Federal officials met in Mississippi with state leadership and top BP claims officials to ensure that BP's claims process is transparent, prompt, and responsive to the unique needs of the impacted communities citizens and businesses. The initial meeting was held in Louisiana late last week. Meetings for Alabama and Florida will be scheduled in the coming days.

President Signs Bill into Law Lifting Oil Spill Liability Trust Fund Spending Cap

The President signed into law an amendment to the Oil Pollution Act of 1990 to authorize advances from Oil Spill Liability Trust Fund for the Deepwater Horizon oil spill—authorizing the Coast Guard to obtain multiple advances (up to \$100 million each), with the total amount of all advances not to exceed the incident cap under current law (\$1 billion), from the Oil Spill Liability Trust Fund to underwrite federal response activities with regard to the discharge of oil that began in connection with the explosion on, and sinking of, the mobile offshore oil unit Deepwater Horizon.

By the Numbers to Date:

- The administration has authorized 17,500 National Guard troops from Gulf Coast states to participate in the response to the BP oil spill.
- Approximately 29,700 personnel are currently responding to protect the shoreline and wildlife and cleanup vital coastlines.
- More than 5,000 vessels are currently responding on site, including skimmers, tugs, barges, and recovery vessels to assist in containment and cleanup efforts—in addition to dozens of aircraft, remotely operated vehicles, and multiple mobile offshore drilling units.
- Approximately 2.37 million feet of containment boom and 3.3 million feet of sorbent boom have been deployed to contain the spill—and approximately 480,000 feet of containment boom and 1.8 million feet of sorbent boom are available.
- Approximately 20.7 million gallons of an oil-water mix have been recovered.

- Approximately 1.28 million gallons of total dispersant have been applied—882,000 on the surface and 402,000 subsea. More than 500,000 gallons are available.
- More than 205 controlled burns have been conducted, efficiently removing a total of more than 5 million gallons of oil from the open water in an effort to protect shoreline and wildlife.
- 17 staging areas are in place to protect sensitive shorelines.
- Approximately 64.4 miles of Gulf Coast shoreline is currently experiencing impacts from BP's leaking oil—34.8 miles in Louisiana, 7.5 miles in Mississippi, 11.7 miles in Alabama, and 10.4 miles in Florida.
- Approximately 78,000 square miles of Gulf of Mexico federal waters remain closed to fishing in order to balance economic and public health concerns. 68 percent remain open. Details can be found at <http://sero.nmfs.noaa.gov/>.
- To date, the administration has leveraged assets and skills from numerous foreign countries and international organizations as part of this historic, all-hands-on-deck response, including Canada, Germany, Mexico, Netherlands, Norway, the United Nations' International Maritime Organization and the European Union's Monitoring and Information Centre.

MONDAY, JUNE 14, 2010

President Obama Visits Alabama, Florida and Mississippi

In a visit that encompassed three states—Alabama, Florida and Mississippi—the President made his fourth trip to the Gulf Coast to assess the ongoing efforts to counter the BP oil spill.

The President met with officials directing the response effort and local residents and business people affected by the spill; observed shoreline impacts firsthand on a boat tour; and visited a response staging facility in Theodore, Ala.—where he reiterated his administration's commitment to a strong, sustained response to one of the worst environmental disasters in our nation's history.

In his remarks, the President conceded that he could not promise that the oil would be cleaned up overnight, adding: “But I promise you this: that things are going to return to normal. This region that's known a lot of hardship will bounce back—just like it's bounced back before. We are going to do everything we can, 24/7, to make sure that communities get back on their feet. And in the end, I am confident that we're going to be able to leave the Gulf Coast in better shape than it was before.” Click [here](#) for a full transcript.

The President Announces Members of His Commission to Ensure Safety and Responsibility in Oil and Gas Development

The President announced members of the National Commission on the BP Deepwater Horizon Oil Spill and Offshore Drilling—Frances G. Beinecke, President of the Natural Resources Defense Council; Donald Boesch, President of the University of Maryland Center for Environmental Science; Terry D. Garcia, Executive Vice President for Mission Programs for the National Geographic Society; Cherry A. Murray, Dean of the Harvard School of Engineering

and Applied Sciences; and Frances Ulmer, Chancellor of the University of Alaska Anchorage. Click [here](#) for complete biographies.

The bipartisan Commission, established through an Executive Order, is tasked with providing recommendations on how we can prevent—and mitigate the impact of—any future spills that result from offshore drilling. The Council is co-chaired by former two-term Florida Governor and former U.S. Senator Bob Graham and former Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency William K. Reilly.

Rear Admiral Watson Responds to BP's Latest Containment Strategies

Federal On-Scene Coordinator Rear Admiral James Watson today responded to [BP's latest containment strategies](#). On Friday, Watson sent a [letter](#) to BP—directing the company to devise a more aggressive plan to build greater capacity and redundancy for oil containment.

After being directed to move more quickly, BP is now stepping up its efforts to contain the leaking oil. They have now outlined a path to contain the more than the full upper end of the current per-day flow estimate by the end of June using additional strategies that weren't contained in their original plan. Their revised plan also includes methods to achieve even greater redundancy beyond the month of June, to better allow for bad weather or unforeseen circumstances. We have continuously demanded strategies and responses from BP that fit the realities of this catastrophic event, for which they are responsible. The administration will continue to hold them accountable and bring every possible resource and innovation to bear.

Federal Agencies Introduce Online Mapping Tool to Track Gulf Response

The administration launched a new federal Web site, www.GeoPlatform.gov/gulfresponse/, designed to be a one-stop shop for detailed near-real-time information about the response to the BP oil spill and to facilitate communication and coordination among a variety of users—from federal, state and local responders to local community leaders and the public.

The site incorporates data from the various agencies that are working together to tackle the spill—including NOAA, the Coast Guard, Fish and Wildlife Service, EPA, NASA, USGS, DHS and Gulf states—into one customizable interactive map.

Vessels of Opportunity Continues to Expand; Prioritizes Commercial Boats

To date, more than 2,300 vessels have been hired as part of the Vessels of Opportunity program, and are working aggressively in multiple shifts across the Gulf to perform a variety of important tasks, including deploying and monitoring containment boom, transporting equipment and personnel and surface and subsurface surveillance (looking for oil).

The VOO program hires vessels of all sizes—with a priority placed on commercial vessels that make their living on the sea—to perform critical response tasks to mitigate the oil's impact on our vital shorelines. Compensation depends on the size of the vessel and ranges from \$1,200-\$3,000 per day. Crew members are paid \$200 per eight-hour shift.

Vessel owners interested in the VOO program should call the VOO Hotline at (866) 279-7983 or visit www.deepwaterhorizonresponse.com.

Foreign Countries and International Organizations Contribute to Response Efforts

To date, the administration has leveraged assets and skills from numerous foreign countries and international organizations as part of this historic, all-hands-on-deck response, including Canada, Germany, Mexico, Netherlands, Norway, the United Nations' International Maritime Organization and the European Union's Monitoring and Information Centre.

The Unified Command continues to look at all available options for assistance as we continue to fight BP's oil from impacting our shores and our communities. Assistance provided to date includes containment and sorbent boom, skimmers and containment vessels, and engineers and scientists with vital experience in oil spill cleanup operations.

NOAA, FDA Continue Ramping Up Efforts to Ensure Safety of Gulf of Mexico Seafood

The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration and the Food and Drug Administration are taking [additional steps](#) to enhance inspection measures designed to ensure that seafood from the Gulf of Mexico is safe and free from contamination by oil—including precautionary closures, increased seafood testing inspections and a re-opening protocol once closed areas meet FDA standards for public health and wholesomeness.

The closed fisheries area now represents 78,264 square miles, which is approximately 32 percent of Gulf of Mexico federal waters. The closed area does not apply to any state waters. This leaves approximately 68 percent of Gulf federal waters available for fishing. Details can be found at <http://sero.nmfs.noaa.gov/>. Fisherman and consumers are encouraged to report potential seafood safety issues to 1-888-INFO-FDA.

EPA Continues to Monitor Air, Water and Sediment Quality in the Gulf

According to the most recent data, the Environmental Protection Agency has found that air quality levels for ozone and particulates on the Gulf coastline are normal for this time of year.

EPA has observed odor-causing pollutants associated with petroleum products in the air along the coastline at low levels. Some of these chemicals may cause short-lived effects, such as headache, nausea or eye, nose and throat irritation. People may be able to smell some of these chemicals at levels well below those that would cause short-term health problems. Anyone experiencing these and other symptoms should call the Medical Support Line at (888) 623-0287.

EPA has deployed field teams to collect samples of oily debris, tar balls, mousse oil and other petroleum waste products that have washed up on the Gulf Coast shoreline. Preliminary results have shown chemical constituents that are usually found in petroleum products.

Fish and Wildlife Service Continues Monitoring, Rescue and Recovery Missions

The Fish and Wildlife Service continues to coordinate and supervise search and capture for oiled wildlife—conducting aerial flights to identify oiled wildlife and helping facilitate recovery and treatment, and leading 17 bird survey teams in Louisiana, Mississippi, Alabama, and Florida to determine the extent of the oil impact on birds. FWS is training four additional teams for survey work in Texas, and has dispatched 456 staff to deal with Gulf response efforts.

BP Continues to Capture Some Oil and Gas Using Containment Device

BP continues to capture some oil and burn some gas at the surface using its containment dome technique, which is being executed under the federal government's direction. After cutting off a portion of the riser, BP placed a containment device over it in order to capture oil at its source.

Approved SBA Economic Injury Assistance Loans Surpass \$3.8 Million

SBA has approved 63 economic injury assistance loans to date, totaling more than \$3.8 million for small businesses in the Gulf Coast impacted by the BP oil spill. Additionally, the agency has granted deferments on 377 existing SBA disaster loans in the region, totaling more than \$1.65 per month in payments. For information on assistance loans for affected businesses, visit the SBA's Web site at www.sba.gov/services/disasterassistance, call (800) 659-2955 (800-877-8339 for the hearing impaired), or email disastercustomerservice@sba.gov.

Administration Continues to Oversee BP's Claims Process

The administration will continue to hold the responsible parties accountable for repairing the damage, and repaying Americans who've suffered a financial loss as a result of the BP oil spill. BP reports that 51,329 claims have been opened, from which more than \$63.2 million have been disbursed. No claims have been denied to date. There are 609 claims adjusters on the ground. To file a claim, visit www.bp.com/claims or call BP's helpline at 1-800-440-0858. Those who have already pursued the BP claims process and are not satisfied with BP's resolution can call the Coast Guard at (800) 280-7118. Additional information about the BP claims process and all available avenues of assistance can be found at www.disasterassistance.gov.

By the Numbers to Date:

- The administration has authorized 17,500 National Guard troops from Gulf Coast states to participate in the response to the BP oil spill.
- More than 25,600 personnel are currently responding to protect the shoreline and wildlife and cleanup vital coastlines.
- More than 5,400 vessels are currently responding on site, including skimmers, tugs, barges, and recovery vessels to assist in containment and cleanup efforts—in addition to dozens of aircraft, remotely operated vehicles, and multiple mobile offshore drilling units.
- Approximately 2.35 million feet of containment boom and 3.2 million feet of sorbent boom have been deployed to contain the spill—and approximately 485,000 feet of containment boom and 1.85 million feet of sorbent boom are available.

- Approximately 20.4 million gallons of an oil-water mix have been recovered.
- Approximately 1.26 million gallons of total dispersant have been deployed—870,000 on the surface and 392,000 subsea. More than 525,000 gallons are available.
- More than 192 controlled burns have been conducted, efficiently removing a total of more than 4.3 million gallons of oil from the open water in an effort to protect shoreline and wildlife.
- 17 staging areas are in place to protect sensitive shorelines.
- Approximately 67.2 miles of Gulf Coast shoreline is currently experiencing impacts from BP's leaking oil—34.6 miles in Louisiana, 7.5 miles in Mississippi, 11.7 miles in Alabama, and 10.4 miles in Florida.
- Approximately 78,000 square miles of Gulf of Mexico federal waters remain closed to fishing in order to balance economic and public health concerns. 68 percent remain open. Details can be found at <http://sero.nmfs.noaa.gov/>.

SUNDAY JUNE 13

President Obama's Message to Gulf Coast: We Are With You

In an [op-ed](#) published in Gulf Coast newspapers, President Obama reiterated his administration's commitment to a strong, sustained response to one of the worst environmental disasters in our nation's history.

"I understand the frustration and anger that the people of the Gulf Coast are feeling. I share it. But instead of allowing feelings of anger and frustration to overwhelm our efforts, we must stay focused on the work at hand," he wrote. "We owe it to the people of the Gulf to bring this ordeal to an end, and we owe it to the American people to make sure it never happens again."

President Obama and British Prime Minister Cameron Discuss BP Oil Spill

In a telephone conversation, President Obama and British Prime Minister David Cameron discussed the impact of the tragic oil spill in the Gulf of Mexico, reiterating that BP must do all it can to respond effectively to the situation.

Rear Admiral Watson Directs BP to Devise a More Aggressive Containment Plan within 48 Hours

Federal On-Scene Coordinator Rear Admiral James A. Watson yesterday sent a second [letter](#) to BP COO Doug Suttles—directing the company to devise a more aggressive to build greater capacity and redundancy for oil containment within 48 hours. The letter was in response to BP's [proposal](#), which Watson had directed BP to develop on [June 8](#).

Watson expressed concern that BP's current plan does not have sufficient resources to "provide the needed collection capacity consistent with revised flow estimates" and "does not go far

enough to mobilize redundant resources in the event of an equipment failure with one of the vessels or some other unforeseen problem.”

Under the federal government’s direction, BP engineers continue to refine plans for two more collection systems that will use connections on the blowout preventer capture more of the leaking oil in the near term. Gas and oil flow will be collected on the drill ships *Q4000* and *Clear Leader*. Plans to acquire equipment for long-term containment and disposal are being examined.

In its oversight role, the federal government will continue to direct BP to plan for a more aggressive response—in the same way the administration pushed for a second relief well, additional redundancy, more transparency, paying for the berms, and a more expedited claims process.

Secretary Salazar Travels to Gulf Coast to Inspect Ongoing Efforts to Protect Wildlife and Coastlines

In his ninth visit to the region, U.S. Department of Interior Secretary Ken Salazar traveled to Gulf Islands National Seashore to inspect the ongoing effort to protect and rehabilitate wildlife and wildlife habitats impacted by the BP oil spill. Salazar met with personnel from the National Park Service and Fish and Wildlife service, whom he praised for working tirelessly to protect sensitive coastal areas and wildlife species, observed response preparations for the barrier islands at Petit Bois Island; and joined an NPS volunteer clean-up program at Fort Pickens in Florida.

BP Continues to Capture Some Oil and Gas Using Containment Device

BP continues to capture some oil and burn some gas at the surface using its containment dome technique, which is being executed under the federal government’s direction. After cutting off a portion of the riser, BP placed a containment device over it in order to capture oil at its source.

Approved SBA Economic Injury Assistance Loans Surpass \$2.2 Million

SBA has approved 54 economic injury assistance loans to date, totaling more than \$2.24 million for small businesses in the Gulf Coast impacted by the BP oil spill. Additionally, the agency has granted deferments on 358 existing SBA disaster loans in the region, totaling more than \$1.63 per month in payments. For information on assistance loans for affected businesses, visit the SBA’s Web site at www.sba.gov/services/disasterassistance, call (800) 659-2955; (800) 877-8339 for the hearing impaired), or email disastercustomerservice@sba.gov.

Administration Continues to Oversee BP’s Claims Process

The administration will continue to hold the responsible parties accountable for repairing the damage, and repaying Americans who’ve suffered a financial loss as a result of the BP oil spill. BP reports that 49,254 claims have been opened, from which more than \$60.2 million have been disbursed. No claims have been denied to date. There are 577 claims adjusters on the ground. To file a claim, visit www.bp.com/claims or call BP’s helpline at (800) 440-0858. Those who have

already pursued the BP claims process and are not satisfied with BP's resolution can call the Coast Guard at (800) 280-7118.

By the Numbers to Date:

- The administration has authorized 17,500 National Guard troops from Gulf Coast states to participate in the response to the BP oil spill.
- More than 25,500 personnel are currently responding to protect the shoreline and wildlife and cleanup vital coastlines.
- More than 5,100 vessels are currently responding on site, including skimmers, tugs, barges, and recovery vessels to assist in containment and cleanup efforts—in addition to dozens of aircraft, remotely operated vehicles, and multiple mobile offshore drilling units.
- Approximately 2.3 million feet of containment boom and 3 million feet of sorbent boom have been deployed to contain the spill—and approximately 460,000 feet of containment boom and 2 million feet of sorbent boom are available.
- Approximately 19.3 million gallons of an oil-water mix have been recovered.
- Approximately 1.2 million gallons of total dispersant have been deployed—820,000 on the surface and 380,000 subsea. More than 540,000 gallons are available.
- More than 165 controlled burns have been conducted, efficiently removing a total of more than 3.85 million gallons of oil from the open water in an effort to protect shoreline and wildlife.
- 17 staging areas are in place and ready to protect sensitive shorelines.

SATURDAY JUNE 12

Admiral Allen Provides Operational Update of BP Oil Spill Response

National Incident Commander Admiral Thad Allen provided a briefing to inform the American public and answer questions on the progress of the administration-wide response to the BP oil spill. A transcript is available [here](#).

Secretary Napolitano Makes Her Fifth Trip to the Gulf Coast

Homeland Security Secretary Janet Napolitano traveled to Louisiana to get a firsthand look of the ongoing, all-hands-on-deck response to the BP oil spill. She visited the Houma, La., incident command center to meet with Coast Guard personnel directing the response, then traveled to Grand Isle, La., to view skimming operations aboard a Coast Guard cutter.

Administrator Jackson Briefs Congressional Delegation on EPA Oversight Efforts

EPA Administrator Lisa Jackson, a native of the Gulf region, traveled to Grand Isle, La.—also her fifth trip to the Gulf Coast—leading a bipartisan congressional delegation. She briefed them on the EPA's ongoing efforts to protect the health and safety of Gulf Coast residents by monitoring air, water and sediment quality, and dispersant levels. Jackson also met with

members of the Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality and the Coast Guard to inspect beach cleanup efforts and waste management activities.

The Congressional delegation led by Administrator Jackson included U.S. Senators Ben Cardin and Barbara Mikulski of Maryland, David Vitter of Louisiana, and Jeff Merkley of Oregon.

Unified Area Command Continues to Provide Extensive Media Access

As it has since the beginning of the response to the BP oil spill, the Unified Area Command continues to schedule regular embed opportunities to facilitate safe access for media interested in covering the nation's largest ever oil spill response effort.

Any members of the press who encounter response personnel restricting their access or violating the [media access policy](#) set forth by Admiral Allen should contact the Joint Information Center. Click [here](#) for more information, including a list of regular embed opportunities.

BP Continues to Capture Some Oil and Gas Using Containment Device

BP continues to capture some oil and burn some gas at the surface using its containment dome technique, which is being executed under the federal government's direction. After cutting off a portion of the riser, BP placed a containment device over it in order to capture oil at its source.

Plans Continue to Increase Capacity for Storing Captured Oil

Under the direction of Admiral Allen, BP engineers continue to refine plans for two more collection systems that will use connections on the blowout preventer capture more of the leaking oil in the near term. Gas and oil flow will be collected on the drill ships *Q4000* and *Clear Leader*. Plans to acquire equipment for long-term containment and disposal are being examined.

Approved SBA Economic Injury Assistance Loans Surpass \$2.2 Million

SBA has approved 54 economic injury assistance loans to date, totaling more than \$2.24 million for small businesses in the Gulf Coast impacted by the BP oil spill. Additionally, the agency has granted deferments on 358 existing SBA disaster loans in the region, totaling more than \$1.63 per month in payments. For information on assistance loans for affected businesses, visit the SBA's Web site at www.sba.gov/services/disasterassistance, call (800) 659-2955; (800) 877-8339 for the hearing impaired), or email disastercustomerservice@sba.gov.

Administration Continues to Oversee BP's Claims Process

The administration will continue to hold the responsible parties accountable for repairing the damage, and repaying Americans who've suffered a financial loss as a result of the BP oil spill. BP reports that 50,101 claims have been opened, from which more than \$58.1 million have been disbursed. No claims have been denied to date. There are 557 claims adjusters on the ground. To file a claim, visit www.bp.com/claims or call BP's helpline at (800) 440-0858. Those who have

already pursued the BP claims process and are not satisfied with BP's resolution can call the Coast Guard at (800) 280-7118.

By the Numbers to Date:

- The administration has authorized 17,500 National Guard troops from Gulf Coast states to participate in the response to the BP oil spill.
- More than 24,700 personnel are currently responding to protect the shoreline and wildlife and cleanup vital coastlines.
- More than 5,500 vessels are responding on site, including skimmers, tugs, barges, and recovery vessels to assist in containment and cleanup efforts—in addition to dozens of aircraft, remotely operated vehicles, and multiple mobile offshore drilling units.
- Approximately 2.24 million feet of containment boom and 2.9 million feet of sorbent boom have been deployed to contain the spill—and approximately 460,000 feet of containment boom and 2.3 million feet of sorbent boom are available.
- Approximately 18.5 million gallons of an oil-water mix have been recovered.
- Approximately 1.17 million gallons of total dispersant have been deployed—800,000 on the surface and 370,000 subsea. More than 515,000 gallons are available.
- More than 165 controlled burns have been conducted, efficiently removing a total of more than 3.85 million gallons of oil from the open water in an effort to protect shoreline and wildlife.
- 17 staging areas are in place and ready to protect sensitive shorelines.

FRIDAY JUNE 11

The President Meets with the Family Members of the Victims of the Oil Rig Disaster

In the Red Room and the State Dining Room, the President had individual discussions with family members of the victims of the Deepwater Horizon oil rig disaster. He was joined by Secretary Ken Salazar, Carol Browner, Valerie Jarrett and Admiral Thad Allen.

The President expressed his condolences and told them that he, the First Lady and the entire administration are behind them and will be there long after the cameras are gone as they go through their unimaginable grief. He also said that while offshore drilling is a part of our nation's overall energy strategy, he simply could not go forward with new deepwater drilling until we have the proper safety measures in place to ensure that a tragedy like this never happens again.

Admiral Allen Invites BP to Meet with the President and Other Senior Officials

National Incident Commander Admiral Thad Allen today sent a [letter](#) to BP Chairman Carl-Henric Svanberg, requesting that he and other BP officials travel to Washington to meet with senior Administration officials on Wednesday, June 16—to discuss BP's financial responsibility for all costs associated with the spill. The President will participate in a portion of the meeting.

The President Discusses Oil Spill Priorities with Congressional Leaders

The President hosted Congressional leaders from both parties to talk through the months ahead and make sure they are as productive as possible. Included at the top of his list of priorities was the ongoing response to the BP oil spill disaster.

The President provided an update about measures that are being taken as part of the single largest national response in United States history to an environmental disaster, and led a frank conversation about the fact that the laws that have been in place have not been adequate for a crisis of this magnitude. The Oil Pollution Act was passed at a time when people didn't envision drilling four miles under the sea for oil.

Congress Sends a Bill to the President Allowing Continued Response Funding

Congress passed a bill that will allow the movement of monies from the Oil Spill Liability Trust Fund Principal Fund to the Emergency Fund to enable the continuation of ongoing response operations. Homeland Security Secretary Janet Napolitano made the following statement:

“I applaud Congress for acting quickly to send a bill to the President that will allow the Coast Guard to continue leveraging every available resource to protect our vital shorelines from BP’s leaking oil,” said Secretary Napolitano. “Lifting the Oil Spill Liability Trust Fund spending cap by moving monies from the Principal Fund to the Emergency Fund will enable the Federal On-Scene Coordinator to continue directing funds for critical administration-wide response activities in advance of reimbursement by BP, as a responsible party. While these funds will allow us to continue mounting an all-hands-on-deck, relentless response, our commitment to holding BP accountable for all costs associated with this disaster—both to the federal government and to all affected individuals and businesses suffering losses as a result of this event—has not wavered.”

Officials Provide Update on Progress of Scientific Teams Analyzing Flow Rates

Under the direction of National Incident Commander Admiral Thad Allen, the Flow Rate Technical Group (FRTG), led by United States Geological Survey Director Dr. Marcia McNutt, and a scientific team led by Energy Secretary Steven Chu are analyzing new data and bringing together several scientific methodologies to develop an updated estimate of how much oil is flowing from BP’s leaking oil well in the Gulf of Mexico.

The updated estimate, which will bring together the ongoing work of scientists and engineers from the federal government, universities, and research institutions, will be of how much oil has been flowing since the riser was cut on June 3.

Additionally, three of the scientific teams analyzing flow rates have reached updated assessments, based on new data or analysis, of flow rates from BP’s well before the riser was cut. DOI and DOE have also directed BP to provide precise differential pressure measurements inside and outside the top hat to allow federal scientists to develop another independent estimate of how much oil is flowing from BP’s well. More information can be found [here](#).

Admiral Allen Provides Operational Update of BP Oil Spill Response

National Incident Commander Admiral Thad Allen provided a briefing to inform the American public and answer questions on the progress of the administration-wide response to the BP oil spill. A transcript is available [here](#).

Admiral Allen was joined by DHS' Tracy Wareing, who is leading the federal oversight of BP's claims process. She provided an update on her meeting yesterday with Admiral Allen and top BP claims officials to assert the administration's oversight of BP's claims process in order to ensure that every legitimate claim is honored and paid in an efficient manner.

In the meeting, they discussed BP's ineffective approach of waiting until after each month's books have closed to pay "large loss" claims—and, in response, BP indicated that they are implementing a more expedited claims process for "large losses" to provide businesses with the funds they need to pay their expenses in advance. They also discussed the current gap in BP claims assistance for seasonal workers, and BP indicated that they will verify that their process is taking into account the needs of seasonal businesses and wage earners.

Secretary Locke Makes His Second Trip to the Affected Gulf Coast

Commerce Secretary Gary Locke held meetings with business owners and employers in Mobile, Ala., Biloxi, Miss., and New Orleans, La., and conducted a flight over the coastal regions of the Gulf between Biloxi and New Orleans. He also visited a bait shop in New Orleans and had dinner with Mayor Mitch Landrieu. This trip marked his second visit to the Gulf region since the BP oil spill began.

Secretary Solis Continues Meetings with Affected Workers in the Gulf Region

Labor Secretary Solis continued her first visit to the Gulf region since the explosion on April 20 to receive briefings from Unified Command officials about the administration's ongoing aggressive response to the BP oil spill, and inspect efforts to ensure the health, safety and well-being of workers affected by the spill and engaged in the spill response. She met with shrimp and oyster fishing workers, and discussed the response with leaders of local non-profit organizations.

Incident Command Post Activated for Florida Peninsula

Following a multi-week planning and preparation process, the Unified Command stood up a Florida Peninsula Command Post in Miami—providing a command and control structure to direct oil spill preparedness and response activities throughout Florida. The new command post reports to the Unified Area Command in Robert, La.

BP Continues to Capture Some Oil and Gas Using Containment Device

BP continues to capture some oil and burn some gas at the surface using its containment dome technique, which is being executed under the federal government's direction. After cutting off a portion of the riser, BP placed a containment device over it in order to capture oil at its source.

Rigorous Deepwater Oil Production Facility Inspections Continue

Interior Department inspectors continue to examine and test all deepwater production facilities as part of the increased enforcement of existing safety regulations and procedures as outlined in Secretary Salazar's 30-day Safety Measures Report that was sent to the President. Of the 46 deepwater production facilities required for inspection, inspectors have completed 78 percent.

Veterinarian Assigned to Work with Law Enforcement and Coordinate Rehabilitation

A U.S. Geological Survey wildlife veterinarian is providing support to the USFWS in Houma, Louisiana, with bird activities, including acting as the liaison to law enforcement wildlife incident command, acting as Louisiana wildlife morgue and the rehabilitated bird release coordinator.

Natural Resource Damage Assessment Teams Continue Wildlife Surveillance

Seventeen beached bird survey teams continued beach surveys in Mississippi, Alabama and Florida, and are planning to expand beach bird surveys into Texas and the southwest Louisiana beaches. Additional teams are undergoing training.

Approved SBA Economic Injury Assistance Loans Surpass \$2.1 Million

SBA has approved 52 economic injury assistance loans to date, totaling more than \$2.22 million for small businesses in the Gulf Coast impacted by the BP oil spill. Additionally, the agency has granted deferments on 346 existing SBA disaster loans in the region, totaling more than \$1.6 per month in payments. For information on assistance loans for affected businesses, visit the SBA's Web site at www.sba.gov/services/disasterassistance, call (800) 659-2955 (800-877-8339 for the hearing impaired), or email disastercustomerservice@sba.gov.

Administration Continues to Oversee BP's Claims Process

The administration will continue to hold the responsible parties accountable for repairing the damage, and repaying Americans who've suffered a financial loss as a result of the BP oil spill. BP reports that 43,988 claims have been opened, from which more than \$55.5 million have been disbursed. No claims have been denied to date. There are 536 claims adjusters on the ground. To file a claim, visit www.bp.com/claims or call BP's helpline at 1-800-440-0858. Those who have already pursued the BP claims process and are not satisfied with BP's resolution can call the Coast Guard at (800) 280-7118.

By the Numbers to Date:

- The administration has authorized 17,500 National Guard troops from Gulf Coast states to participate in the response to the BP oil spill.
- More than 24,600 personnel are currently responding to protect the shoreline and wildlife and cleanup vital coastlines.

- More than 4,500 vessels are responding on site, including skimmers, tugs, barges, and recovery vessels to assist in containment and cleanup efforts—in addition to dozens of aircraft, remotely operated vehicles, and multiple mobile offshore drilling units.
- Approximately 2.2 million feet of containment boom and 2.6 million feet of sorbent boom have been deployed to contain the spill—and approximately 630,000 feet of containment boom and 2.3 million feet of sorbent boom are available.
- Approximately 18.1 million gallons of an oil-water mix have been recovered.
- Approximately 1.16 million gallons of total dispersant have been deployed—800,000 on the surface and 360,000 subsea. More than 500,000 gallons are available.
- More than 165 controlled burns have been conducted, efficiently removing a total of more than 3.85 million gallons of oil from the open water in an effort to protect shoreline and wildlife.
- 17 staging areas are in place and ready to protect sensitive shorelines.

THURSDAY, JUNE 10

Admiral Allen Meets with BP Claims Officials; Asserts Oversight of Claims Process

At the President's direction, Admiral Thad Allen today met with top BP claims officials to assert the administration's oversight of BP's claims process in order to ensure that every legitimate claim is honored and paid in an efficient manner. He expressed the American people's urgent need for additional transparency into BP's claims process, including how the process works, and how quickly claims are being processed for both individuals and businesses impacted by the oil spill. Additional meetings will be held in each of the four impacted states from June 11-13.

Today's meeting followed a [letter](#) sent today from Admiral Allen to BP CEO Tony Hayward directing the company to provide the National Incident Command and appropriate representatives of the affected Gulf Coast states with more detailed information about the full range of activities—from acceptance to processing to payment—BP is undertaking to meet its obligations as a responsible party in this disaster.

The administration will continue to hold the responsible parties accountable for repairing the damage, and repaying Americans who've suffered a financial loss as a result of the BP oil spill. To date, BP reports that 41,958 claims have been opened, from which more than \$52.9 million have been disbursed. No claims have been denied to date. There are 533 claims adjusters on the ground. To file a claim, visit www.bp.com/claims or call BP's helpline at 1-800-440-0858. Those who have already pursued the BP claims process and are not satisfied with BP's resolution can call the Coast Guard at (800) 280-7118.

Admiral Allen Provides Operational Update of BP Oil Spill Response

National Incident Commander Admiral Thad Allen provided a briefing to inform the American public and answer questions on the progress of the administration-wide response to the BP oil spill. A transcript is available [here](#).

Rear Admiral Watson Instructs BP to Execute Oil Containment Contingency Plans

Federal On-Scene Coordinator Rear Admiral James A. Watson has sent a letter to BP instructing them to develop plans—within 72 hours—to “put equipment, systems and processes in place to ensure that the remaining oil and gas flowing can be recovered, taking into account safety, environmental and meteorological factors.”

The letter stressed the importance of redundancies to maintain collection rates in the event of operational problems, the need for multiple recovery vessels once additional capacity is needed, or severe weather, such as a hurricane.

Secretary Solis Visits Gulf Region to Inspect Efforts to Ensure Oil Spill Worker Safety

At the direction of the president, Secretary of Labor Hilda L. Solis traveled to Louisiana to inspect efforts to ensure the health, safety and well-being of workers affected by the BP oil spill. She met with beach cleanup workers in Port Fourchon; discussed worker safety efforts with Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) staff; and visited the Terrebonne Career Solutions Center, where she met with Vietnamese workers affected by the spill.

Policy Established to Protect Worker Health and Safety as Heat Rises in the Region

In an effort to protect the health and safety of workers amid rising summer temperatures, the Unified Area Command has established a policy requiring all on-shore and near-shore cleanup workers to follow a work/rest cycle to ensure their safety and well-being—which is determined based on the heat index, type of work being performed and required protective clothing. In addition, cleanup workers must be provided with plenty of water and encouraged to hydrate regularly. More information from OSHA is available [here](#).

BP Continues to Capture Some Oil and Gas Using Containment Device

BP continues to capture some oil and burn some gas at the surface using its containment dome technique, which is being executed under the federal government’s direction. After cutting off a portion of the riser, BP placed a containment device over it in order to capture oil at its source.

Approved SBA Economic Injury Assistance Loans Surpass \$2.1 Million

SBA has approved 51 economic injury assistance loans to date, totaling more than \$2.19 million for small businesses in the Gulf Coast impacted by the BP oil spill. Additionally, the agency has granted deferments on 343 existing SBA disaster loans in the region, totaling more than \$1.5 per month in payments. For information on assistance loans for affected businesses, visit the SBA’s Web site at www.sba.gov/services/disasterassistance, call (800) 659-2955, (800) 877-8339 for the hearing impaired), or email disastercustomerservice@sba.gov.

By the Numbers to Date:

- The administration has authorized 17,500 National Guard troops from Gulf Coast states to participate in the response to the BP oil spill.
- More than 24,000 personnel are currently responding to protect the shoreline and wildlife and cleanup vital coastlines.
- More than 4,500 vessels are responding on site, including skimmers, tugs, barges, and recovery vessels to assist in containment and cleanup efforts—in addition to dozens of aircraft, remotely operated vehicles, and multiple mobile offshore drilling units.
- Approximately 2.17 million feet of containment boom and 2.6 million feet of sorbent boom have been deployed to contain the spill—and approximately 520,000 feet of containment boom and 2.3 million feet of sorbent boom are available.
- Approximately 16 million gallons of an oil-water mix have been recovered.
- Approximately 1.14 million gallons of total dispersant have been deployed—798,000 on the surface and 346,000 subsea. More than 500,000 gallons are available.
- More than 145 controlled burns have been conducted, efficiently removing a total of more than 3.62 million gallons of oil from the open water in an effort to protect shoreline and wildlife.
- 17 staging areas are in place and ready to protect sensitive shorelines.

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 9

Admiral Allen Meets with BP Claims Officials; Asserts Oversight of Claims Process

At the President's direction, Admiral Thad Allen today met with top BP claims officials to assert the administration's oversight of BP's claims process in order to ensure that every legitimate claim is honored and paid in an efficient manner. He expressed the American people's urgent need for additional transparency into BP's claims process, including how the process works, and how quickly claims are being processed for both individuals and businesses impacted by the oil spill. Additional meetings will be held in each of the four impacted states from June 11-13.

Today's meeting followed a letter
(viewable at

http://www.deepwaterhorizonresponse.com/posted/2931/NIC_Letter_to_BP_CEO.621247.pdf) sent today from Admiral Allen to BP CEO Tony Hayward directing the company to provide the National Incident Command and appropriate representatives of the affected Gulf Coast states with more detailed information about the full range of activities—from acceptance to processing to payment—BP is undertaking to meet its obligations as a responsible party in this disaster.

The administration will continue to hold the responsible parties accountable for repairing the damage, and repaying Americans who've suffered a financial loss as a result of the BP oil spill. To date, BP reports that 41,958 claims have been opened, from which more than \$52.9 million

have been disbursed. No claims have been denied to date. There are 533 claims adjusters on the ground. To file a claim, visit www.bp.com/claims or call BP's helpline at 1-800-440-0858.

Those who have already pursued the BP claims process and are not satisfied with BP's resolution can call the Coast Guard at (800) 280-7118.

Admiral Allen Provides Operational Update of BP Oil Spill Response

National Incident Commander Admiral Thad Allen provided a briefing to inform the American public and answer questions on the progress of the administration-wide response to the BP oil spill. A transcript is available at <http://www.deepwaterhorizonresponse.com/go/doc/2931/623251/>

Rear Admiral Watson Instructs BP to Execute Oil Containment Contingency Plans

Federal On-Scene Coordinator Rear Admiral James A. Watson has sent a letter to BP instructing them to develop plans—within 72 hours—to “put equipment, systems and processes in place to ensure that the remaining oil and gas flowing can be recovered, taking into account safety, environmental and meteorological factors.”

The letter stressed the importance of redundancies to maintain collection rates in the event of operational problems, the need for multiple recovery vessels once additional capacity is needed, or severe weather, such as a hurricane.

Secretary Solis Visits Gulf Region to Inspect Efforts to Ensure Oil Spill Worker Safety

At the direction of the president, Secretary of Labor Hilda L. Solis traveled to Louisiana to inspect efforts to ensure the health, safety and well-being of workers affected by the BP oil spill. She met with beach cleanup workers in Port Fourchon; discussed worker safety efforts with Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) staff; and visited the Terrebonne Career Solutions Center, where she met with Vietnamese workers affected by the spill.

Policy Established to Protect Worker Health and Safety as Heat Rises in the Region

In an effort to protect the health and safety of workers amid rising summer temperatures, the Unified Area Command has established a policy requiring all on-shore and near-shore cleanup workers to follow a work/rest cycle to ensure their safety and well-being—which is determined based on the heat index, type of work being performed and required protective clothing. In addition, cleanup workers must be provided with plenty of water and encouraged to hydrate regularly. More information from OSHA is available at

https://www.osha.gov/OshDoc/data_Hurricane_Facts/heat_stress.pdf.

BP Continues to Capture Some Oil and Gas Using Containment Device

BP continues to capture some oil and burn some gas at the surface using its containment dome technique, which is being executed under the federal government's direction. After cutting off a portion of the riser, BP placed a containment device over it in order to capture oil at its source.

Approved SBA Economic Injury Assistance Loans Surpass \$2.1 Million

SBA has approved 51 economic injury assistance loans to date, totaling more than \$2.19 million for small businesses in the Gulf Coast impacted by the BP oil spill. Additionally, the agency has granted deferments on 343 existing SBA disaster loans in the region, totaling more than \$1.5 per month in payments. For information on assistance loans for affected businesses, visit the SBA's Web site at

www.sba.gov/services/disasterassistance, call (800) 659-2955, (800) 877-8339 for the hearing impaired), or email disastercustomerservice@sba.gov.

By the Numbers to Date:

- The administration has authorized 17,500 National Guard troops from Gulf Coast states to participate in the response to the BP oil spill.
- More than 24,000 personnel are currently responding to protect the shoreline and wildlife and cleanup vital coastlines.
- More than 4,500 vessels are responding on site, including skimmers, tugs, barges, and recovery vessels to assist in containment and cleanup efforts—in addition to dozens of aircraft, remotely operated vehicles, and multiple mobile offshore drilling units.
- Approximately 2.17 million feet of containment boom and 2.6 million feet of sorbent boom have been deployed to contain the spill—and approximately 520,000 feet of containment boom and 2.3 million feet of sorbent boom are available.
- Approximately 16 million gallons of an oil-water mix have been recovered.
- Approximately 1.14 million gallons of total dispersant have been deployed—798,000 on the surface and 346,000 subsea. More than 500,000 gallons are available.
- More than 145 controlled burns have been conducted, efficiently removing a total of more than 3.62 million gallons of oil from the open water in an effort to protect shoreline and wildlife.
- 17 staging areas are in place and ready to protect sensitive shorelines.

TUESDAY, JUNE 8

President Obama Announces Fourth Trip to Gulf Coast Next Week

On Monday, June 14, and Tuesday, June 15, the President will make his fourth trip to the Gulf Coast—traveling to Mississippi, Alabama and Florida to further assess the latest efforts to counter the BP oil spill.

Admiral Allen and Administrator Lubchenco Provide Operational Update

National Incident Commander Admiral Thad Allen and NOAA Administrator Dr. Jane Lubchenco provided a briefing to inform the American public and answer questions on the progress of the administration-wide response to the BP oil spill from the Department of Homeland Security Headquarters Nebraska Avenue Complex. A transcript is available at

<http://www.deepwaterhorizonresponse.com/go/doc/2931/602239/>.

NOAA Completes Initial Analysis of *Weatherbird II* Water Samples

At the briefing, Administrator Lubchenco announced details of the initial analysis of water samples from the University of South Florida's *Weatherbird II*, which confirmed the presence of very low concentrations of sub-surface oil and PAHs (polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons)—determined to be in the range of less than 0.5 parts per million, and PAH levels in the range of parts per trillion. The full report is available at

http://www.noaanews.noaa.gov/stories2010/PDFs/noaa_weatherbird_analysis.pdf

Other NOAA scientific research missions to study subsurface impacts in the vicinity of the BP Deepwater Horizon wellhead include the NOAA Ship *Thomas Jefferson*, which is currently underway, and the NOAA Ship *Gordon Gunter*, which returned June 3 from an eight-day oil detection mission. In addition, NOAA's P-3 "Hurricane Hunter" is deploying instruments to better track the movement of the Loop Current, and therefore improve our understanding of where the oil is moving at the surface and below the surface.

NOAA Deploys Additional High Powered Research Aircraft to Monitor Gulf Air

A second NOAA WP-3D Orion aircraft was deployed to the Gulf today to build on current air quality monitoring efforts near the BP oil spill. The NOAA aircraft conducted two flights over and around the spill site to detect pollutants and their reaction products released into the atmosphere by the oil, as well as the pollutants and smoke from controlled burns. The flights will enable researchers to better understand the spill's atmospheric effects.

As part of the federal government's ongoing response to the BP spill, EPA continues its extensive air quality monitoring along the Gulf Coast. In this case, NOAA and EPA are working collaboratively to take advantage of NOAA's highly specialized atmospheric research capabilities, which can detect concentrations of compounds in the atmosphere with greater sensitivity than standard operational monitoring flights.

Department of Energy Makes Public Detailed Information on the BP Oil Spill

U.S. Energy Secretary Steven Chu announced that the Department of Energy is providing online access to schematics, pressure tests, diagnostic results and other data about the malfunctioning blowout preventer—to ensure the public is informed and outside experts making recommendations have access to the same information that BP and the government have. The information is posted at www.energy.gov.

At the President's direction, Secretary Chu has assembled a team of top scientists and engineers from academia and the U.S. government, with support from more than 200 personnel from the Department of Energy's National Laboratories, to analyze the response efforts and recommend additional options for stopping the leaking oil.

Secretary Locke Hosts Conference Call with Gulf Coast Tourism Leaders

Department of Commerce Secretary Gary Locke hosted a conference call today with leaders from the travel and tourism industry in the Gulf Coast—an opportunity to hear firsthand about the impacts of the BP oil spill and receive feedback on what else the federal government could be doing to help mitigate the damage.

BP Continues to Capture Some Oil and Gas Using Containment Device

BP continues to capture some oil and burn some gas at the surface using its containment dome technique, which is being executed under the federal government's direction. After cutting off a portion of the riser, BP placed a containment device over it in order to capture oil at its source.

Administration Continues to Oversee BP's Claims Process

The administration will continue to hold the responsible parties accountable for repairing the damage, and repaying Americans who've suffered a financial loss as a result of the BP oil spill. BP reports that 39,659 claims have been opened, from which more than \$49.6 million have been disbursed. No claims have been denied to date. There are 531 claims adjusters on the ground. To file a claim, visit

www.bp.com/claims or call BP's helpline at (800) 440-0858.

Those who have already pursued the BP claims process and are not satisfied with BP's resolution can call the Coast Guard at (800) 280-7118.

Approved SBA Economic Injury Assistance Loans Surpass \$2 Million

SBA has approved 46 economic injury assistance loans to date, totaling more than \$2.05 million for small businesses in the Gulf Coast impacted by the BP oil spill. Additionally, the agency has granted deferments on 334 existing SBA disaster loans in the region, totaling \$1,440,000 per month in payments. For information on assistance loans for affected businesses, visit the SBA's Web site at

www.sba.gov/services/disasterassistance, call (800) 659-2955; (800) 877-8339 for the hearing impaired), or email disastercustomerservice@sba.gov.

By the Numbers to Date:

- The administration has authorized 17,500 National Guard troops from Gulf Coast states to participate in the response to the BP oil spill.

- More than 24,000 personnel are currently responding to protect the shoreline and wildlife and cleanup vital coastlines.
- More than 3,500 vessels are responding on site, including skimmers, tugs, barges, and recovery vessels to assist in containment and cleanup efforts—in addition to dozens of aircraft, remotely operated vehicles, and multiple mobile offshore drilling units.
- Approximately 2.25 million feet of containment boom and 2.55 million feet of sorbent boom have been deployed to contain the spill—and approximately 670,000 feet of containment boom and 2.38 million feet of sorbent boom are available.
- Approximately 15.86 million gallons of an oil-water mix have been recovered.
- Approximately 1.12 million gallons of total dispersant have been deployed—790,000 on the surface and 330,000 subsea. More than 480,000 gallons are available.
- More than 130 controlled burns have been conducted, efficiently removing a total of more than 3.5 million gallons of oil from the open water in an effort to protect shoreline and wildlife.
- 17 staging areas are in place and ready to protect sensitive shorelines.

SUNDAY AND MONDAY, JUNE 5 and 6

President Meets with Cabinet Members and Other Top Officials at White House

President Obama met with members of his cabinet and other top U.S. government officials involved in the ongoing administration-wide response to the BP oil spill in the Cabinet Room at the White House.

Following the meeting, the President again reiterated the federal government's commitment to ensuring that BP fulfills every claim obligation. "We are going to insist that money flows quickly—in a timely basis—so that you don't have a shrimp processor or a fisherman who's going out of business before BP finally makes up its mind as to whether or not it's going to pay out," the President said. "That's going to be one of our top priorities, because we know that no matter how successful we are over the next few weeks in some of the containment efforts, the damages are going to be there." A transcript is available at

<http://tinyurl.com/2db7sjk>.

Admiral Allen and Press Secretary Gibbs Provide Operational Update

National Incident Commander Admiral Thad Allen and White House Press Secretary Robert Gibbs provided a briefing to inform the American public and answer questions on the progress of the administration-wide response to the BP oil spill from the White House press briefing room. A transcript is available at

<http://www.deepwaterhorizonresponse.com/go/doc/2931/597631/>.

Admiral Allen included a slide

(http://www.deepwaterhorizonresponse.com/posted/2931/CG_Illustration_6d_large.598679.jpg)

in his briefing that presents a three-dimensional view of the response and the four different areas of operations: in the subsea area near the well; on the surface above the well; within 50 miles of the coast; and on the shoreline. “We’re no longer dealing with a large, monolithic spill,” Allen said. “We’re dealing with an aggregation of hundreds or thousands of patches of oil that are going a lot of different directions. And we’ve had to adapt and we need to adapt to be able to meet that threat.”

BP Continues to Capture Some Oil and Gas Using Containment Device

BP continues to capture some oil and burn some gas at the surface using its containment dome technique, which is being executed under the federal government’s direction. After cutting off a portion of the riser, BP placed a containment device over it in order to capture oil at its source.

EPA Continues to Monitor Air, Water and Sediment Quality in the Gulf Coast

According to the most recent data, the Environmental Protection Agency has found that air quality levels for ozone and particulates are normal on the Gulf coastline for this time of year. Likewise, water and sediment samples along the Gulf Coast did not reveal elevated levels of chemicals usually found in oil.

EPA has observed odor-causing pollutants associated with petroleum products in the air along the coastline at low levels. Some of these chemicals may cause short-lived effects like headache, eye, nose and throat irritation, or nausea. People may be able to smell some of these chemicals at levels well below those that would cause short-term health problems. Anyone experiencing these and other symptoms should call the Medical Support Line at 1-888-623-0287.

Fishing Restrictions Decrease by One Percent; 68 Percent Remains Open

Today, NOAA opened 430 square miles of previously closed fishing area off the Florida panhandle – the northern boundary now ends at the Florida federal-state water line on the east side of Choctawhatchee Bay. This area was initially closed on June 5 as a precaution because oil was projected to be within the area over the next 48 hours. However, the review of satellite imagery, radar and aerial data indicated that oil had not moved into the area.

The closed area now represents 78,264 square miles, which is approximately 32 percent of Gulf of Mexico federal waters—the closed area does not apply to any state waters. This leaves approximately 68 percent of Gulf federal waters available for fishing. Closing fishing in these areas is a precautionary measure to ensure that seafood from the Gulf will remain safe for consumers. Details can be found at

<http://sero.nmfs.noaa.gov/>.

Administration Continues to Oversee BP’s Claims Process

The administration will continue to hold the responsible parties accountable for repairing the damage, and repaying Americans who’ve suffered a financial loss as a result of the BP oil spill. BP reports that 38,052 claims have been opened, from which more than \$48.6 million have been

disbursed. No claims have been denied to date. There are 514 claims adjusters on the ground. To file a claim, visit

www.bp.com/claims

or call BP's helpline at 1-800-440-0858. Those who have already pursued the BP claims process and are not satisfied with BP's resolution can call the Coast Guard at (800) 280-7118.

SBA Economic Injury Assistance Loans Approved for Louisiana

SBA has approved 43 economic injury assistance loans to date, totaling \$1,8 million for small businesses in Louisiana impacted by the BP oil spill. Additionally, the agency has granted deferments on 301 existing SBA disaster loans in the Gulf Coast region, totaling \$1,253,800 per month in payments. For information on assistance loans for affected businesses, visit the SBA's Web site at

www.sba.gov/services/disasterassistance, call 800-659-2955; 800-877-8339 for the hearing impaired),

or email disastercustomerservice@sba.gov.

Successful Controlled Burn

Favorable weather conditions allowed responders to conduct a successful controlled burn operation. As part of a coordinated response that combines tactics deployed above water, below water, offshore, and close to coastal areas, controlled burns efficiently remove oil from the open water in an effort to protect shoreline and wildlife.

By the Numbers to Date:

- The administration has authorized 17,500 National Guard troops from Gulf Coast states to participate in the response to the BP oil spill.
- More than 22,000 personnel are currently responding to protect the shoreline and wildlife and cleanup vital coastlines.
- More than 3,100 vessels are responding on site, including skimmers, tugs, barges, and recovery vessels to assist in containment and cleanup efforts—in addition to dozens of aircraft, remotely operated vehicles, and multiple mobile offshore drilling units.
- Approximately 2.19 million feet of containment boom and 2.46 million feet of sorbent boom have been deployed to contain the spill—and approximately 702,000 feet of containment boom and 2.5 million feet of sorbent boom are available.
- Approximately 15.5 million gallons of an oil-water mix have been recovered.
- Approximately 1.09 million gallons of total dispersant have been deployed—779,000 on the surface and 317,000 subsea. More than 469,000 gallons are available.
- More than 125 controlled burns have been conducted, efficiently removing a total of more than 3.2 million gallons of oil from the open water in an effort to protect shoreline and wildlife.
- 17 staging areas are in place and ready to protect sensitive shorelines.

SATURDAY, JUNE 5

Admiral Allen Provides Operational Update for Unified Area Command

National Incident Commander Admiral Thad Allen today provided a briefing to inform the American public and answer questions on the progress of the administration-wide response to the BP oil spill at the Theodore Staging Area in Theodore, Ala. A transcript is available at <http://www.deepwaterhorizonresponse.com/go/doc/2931/593199/>.

BP Places Containment Device Over Wellhead; Currently Capturing Some Oil and Gas

Under the federal government's direction, BP cut off a portion of the riser before attempting to place a containment device over it in order to capture the leaking oil. BP has placed the containment cap over the source of the leak. The cap has allowed BP to capture some oil and burn some gas at the surface.

At his briefing this morning, Admiral Allen was cautiously optimistic about this new development, saying that the goal is to increase the amount of oil captured and "hopefully take the pressure off the well and hopefully start to reduce the oil that is coming out through the vents."

Administrator Jackson Hosts Meeting With Experts on Coastal Protection and Cleanup

EPA Administrator Lisa Jackson and the National Incident Command in Houma, La., today convened a meeting of science and technology experts to explore new ideas and methods for coastal protection and clean up technologies—part of continued efforts to engage the brightest minds from across the federal government, academia and the private sector in the ongoing response to the BP oil spill.

These experts, many of whom have years of experience and expertise on oil spill clean up operations, are examining and analyzing both traditional and innovative approaches to marsh and wetlands oil clean up and remediation in order to identify the most promising alternatives and facilitate ongoing collaborations for both short- and long-term response.

Administration Continues to Oversee BP's Claims Process

The Administration will continue to hold the responsible parties accountable for repairing the damage, and repaying Americans who've suffered a financial loss as a result of the BP oil spill. BP reports that 35,591 claims have been opened, from which more than \$48.1 million have been disbursed. No claims have been denied to date. There are 514 claims adjusters on the ground. To file a claim, visit:

www.bp.com/claims or call BP's helpline at 1 (800) 440-0858

Those who have already pursued the BP claims process and are not satisfied with BP's resolution can call the Coast Guard at 1 (800) 280-7118.

The National Incident Command has established the Deepwater Integrated Services Team to coordinate interagency support services for individuals and small businesses impacted by the BP oil spill—designed to provide residents with full, streamlined access to all available assistance programs. In addition,

www.disasterassistance.gov

has been enhanced to provide a one-stop shop for information on how to file a claim with BP and access additional assistance—available in English and Spanish.

SBA Economic Injury Assistance Loans Approved for Louisiana

SBA has approved 36 economic injury assistance loans to date, totaling \$1,257,000, for small businesses in Louisiana impacted by the BP oil spill. Additionally, the agency has granted deferments on 272 existing SBA disaster loans in the Gulf Coast region, totaling \$1,123,300 per month in payments. For information on assistance loans for affected businesses, visit the SBA's Web site at

www.sba.gov/services/disasterassistance,

call (800) 659-2955 (800) 877-8339 for the hearing impaired), or email

disastercustomerservice@sba.gov.

Shoreline Cleanup and Wildlife Rescue Crews Increased in Louisiana

Additional shoreline cleanup and wildlife rescue crews today were committed to Grand Isle, La., due to heavy oil hitting along a 12.5-mile stretch of coastline. Nineteen contract biologists were sent to supplement the U.S. Fish and Wildlife personnel in the area.

The Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fish (DWF) reported that as of today 78 percent of all bird sightings have resulted in rescue. However, operators of bird rehabilitation facilities report that they are experiencing difficulties when cleaning the more heavily oiled birds.

Fishing Restrictions Increase by One Percent; 67 Percent Remains Open

Today, NOAA added 565 square miles to the fishing closed area—located at the northeast edge of the closed area and encompassing the projected movement of oil toward Panama City Beach, Florida. This federal closure does not apply to any state waters. The closed area now represents 78,603 square miles, which is approximately 33 percent of Gulf of Mexico federal waters. This leaves more than 67 percent of Gulf federal waters available for fishing. Closing fishing in these areas is a precautionary measure to ensure that seafood from the Gulf will remain safe for consumers. Details can be found at

<http://sero.nmfs.noaa.gov/>.

By the Numbers to Date:

- The administration has authorized 17,500 National Guard troops from Gulf Coast states to participate in the response to the BP oil spill.
- More than 20,000 personnel are currently responding to protect the shoreline and wildlife and cleanup vital coastlines.
- More than 2,600 vessels are responding on site, including skimmers, tugs, barges, and recovery vessels to assist in containment and cleanup efforts—in addition to dozens of aircraft, remotely operated vehicles, and multiple mobile offshore drilling units.
- Approximately 2.1 million feet of containment boom and 2.35 million feet of sorbent boom have been deployed to contain the spill—and approximately 695,000 feet of containment boom and 2.2 million feet of sorbent boom are available.
- Approximately 15.2 million gallons of an oil-water mix have been recovered.
- Approximately 1.05 million gallons of total dispersant have been deployed—779,000 on the surface and 270,000 subsea. More than 450,000 gallons are available.
- 125 controlled burns have been conducted, efficiently removing a total of more than 3.2 million gallons of oil from the open water in an effort to protect shoreline and wildlife.
- 17 staging areas are in place and ready to protect sensitive shorelines, including: Dauphin Island, Ala., Orange Beach, Ala., Theodore, Ala., Panama City, Fla., Pensacola, Fla., Port St. Joe, Fla., St. Marks, Fla., Amelia, La., Cocodrie, La., Grand Isle, La., Shell Beach, La., Slidell, La., St. Mary, La.; Venice, La., Biloxi, Miss., Pascagoula, Miss., and Pass Christian, Miss.

FRIDAY, JUNE 4

The President Makes His Third Trip to the Gulf Coast

Making his third trip to the Gulf Coast since BP's oil rig exploded, President Obama traveled to Louisiana to meet with Gulf Coast elected officials, responders on the ground, and local residents and business leaders impacted by the BP oil spill.

Speaking alongside federal officials and Gulf Coast governors, the President sharply criticized BP for spending money on a public relations campaign.

“I don't have a problem with BP fulfilling its legal obligations,” the President said. “But I want BP to be very clear—they've got moral and legal obligations here in the Gulf for the damage that has been done. And what I don't want to hear is, when they're spending that kind of money on their shareholders and spending that kind of money on TV advertising, that they're nickel-and-diming fishermen or small businesses here in the Gulf who are having a hard time.”

The President discussed recent progress in improving coordination between responders and local officials—including bridging differences on the barrier islands proposal and stationing a Coast Guard official and BP representative with each parish president, pledging the same representation for local officials in other Gulf States. The President also traveled to Grand Isle, La., where he met with Mayor David Camardelle and approximately 30 local residents. Upon arrival in Kenner, La., the President was greeted by Governors Bobby Jindal of Louisiana, Charlie Crist of Florida, and Bob Reilly of Alabama; U.S. Senator David Vitter; Louisiana Representatives Charlie Melancon and Anh “Joseph” Cao; New Orleans Mayor Mitch Landrieu; Lafayette Mayor Tim Kerner; and Parish Presidents Billy Nungesser (Plaquemines), Michel Claudette (Terrebonne), Charlotte Randolph (Lafourche), Steve Theriot (Jefferson); Admiral Allen; EPA Administrator Lisa Jackson; and Counselor to Homeland Security Secretary Janet Napolitano Tracy Wareing. The President received a briefing from Admiral Allen.

BP Lowers Containment Device Onto Riser; Begins Capturing Some Oil and Gas

Under the federal government’s direction, BP cut off a portion of the riser before attempting to place a containment device over it in order to capture the leaking oil. Late last night, BP placed the containment cap over the source of the leak. The cap has allowed BP to capture some oil and burn some gas at the surface.

In response to these developments, Admiral Allen released the following statement: “The placement of the containment cap is another positive development in BP’s most recent attempt to contain the leak; however, it will be sometime before we can confirm that this method will work and to what extent it will mitigate the release of oil into the environment. Even if successful, this is only a temporary and partial fix and we must continue our aggressive response operations at the source, on the surface and along the Gulf’s precious coastline.”

Admiral Allen Provides Operational Update for Unified Area Command

National Incident Commander Admiral Thad Allen this morning provided a briefing to inform the American public and answer questions on the progress of the administration-wide response to the BP oil spill from Louisiana by teleconference. A transcript is available at

<http://www.deepwaterhorizonresponse.com/go/doc/2931/590331/>.

Administration Continues to Oversee BP’s Claims Process

In his briefing, Admiral Allen discussed the administration’s aggressive oversight of the BP claims process from start to finish that will ensure that every legitimate claim is honored and paid in an efficient manner, and its strong commitment to providing residents with full, streamlined access to available assistance programs.

BP, as a responsible party, is accountable for making the communities, individuals and business impacted by this spill whole again. The federal government continues to provide oversight of this

process to ensure BP is expeditiously reimbursing claims to address immediate cash flow needs and long term recovery and quickly resolving any issues that arise.

To date, BP reports that 34,656 claims have been opened, from which more than \$45.9 million have been disbursed. No claims have been denied to date. There are more than 516 claims adjusters on the ground. To file a claim, visit

www.bp.com/claims or call BP's helpline at 1-800-440-0858.

Those who have already pursued the BP claims process and are not satisfied with BP's resolution can call the Coast Guard at (800) 280-7118.

The National Incident Command has established the Deepwater Integrated Services Team to coordinate interagency support services for individuals and small businesses impacted by the BP oil spill—designed to provide residents with full, streamlined access to all available assistance programs. In addition,

www.disasterassistance.gov

has been enhanced to provide a one-stop shop for information on how to file a claim with BP and access additional assistance—available in English and Spanish.

SBA Economic Injury Assistance Loans Approved for Louisiana

SBA has approved 36 economic injury assistance loans to date, totaling \$1,257,000, for small businesses in Louisiana impacted by the BP oil spill. Additionally, the agency has granted deferments on 272 existing SBA disaster loans in the Gulf Coast region, totaling \$1,123,300 per month in payments. For information on assistance loans for affected businesses, visit the SBA's Web site at

www.sba.gov/services/disasterassistance, call (800) 659-2955 (800-877-8339 for the hearing impaired), or email disastercustomerservice@sba.gov.

Interagency Team Formed to Collect and Review Oil Spill Response Solutions

In an effort to ensure that the best available methods are used in the administration's ongoing response to the BP oil spill, Admiral Allen has directed the establishment a new team—the Interagency Alternative Technology Assessment Program (IATAP) working group—to collect and review oil spill response solutions from scientists and vendors.

The Coast Guard's Research and Development Center (RDC), in collaboration with interagency partners, issued a Broad Agency Announcement on

www.FedBizOpps.gov

calling for the submission of white papers that cover. The IATAP and the RDC will screen submissions based on technical feasibility, potential effectiveness and deployment capability.

USDA Hosts Tribal Conference Call to Discuss Available Programs

Department of Agriculture officials hosted a conference call with tribal governments in the Gulf Coast region to discuss the impacts on agricultural resources and wildlife from the BP oil spill and provide information on available USDA programs to recover impacted wildlife, remediate oil-contaminated soils, and assist families experiencing financial loss as a result of the oil spill with access to nutrition assistance programs.

NOAA Ship Returns from Mission to Study Subsurface Plume and Currents

The NOAA Ship *Gordon Gunter*, a 224-foot research vessel, returned from an eight-day subsurface oil detection mission in the vicinity of the leaking wellhead. The results collected by scientists aboard will be analyzed by NOAA. The mission is an ongoing public-private collaborative effort between NOAA, the Monterey Bay Aquarium Research Institute, University of New Hampshire, University of South Florida and federal partners.

The contract vessel Beau Rivage completed seafood sampling in the Gulf of Mexico and was expected to return today to Pascagoula, Miss. Samples will be offloaded and transferred to NOAA's National Seafood Inspection Laboratory for analysis.

Large Part of Previously Closed Florida Fishing Area Opened; New Closure Near Panhandle; 68 Percent Remains Open

NOAA has opened more than 16,000 square miles of previously closed fishing area off the Florida coast. The most significant opening is a 13,653-square mile area just west of the Florida Keys and Dry Tortugas. It was initially closed on June 2 as a precaution because oil was projected to be within the area; however, the review of satellite imagery, radar and aerial data indicated that oil had not moved into the area.

Additionally, the agency closed a 2,275-square mile area off the Florida panhandle federal-state waterline, extending the northern boundary just east of the western edge of Choctawhatchee Bay. This federal closure does not apply to any state waters. Closing fishing in these areas is a precautionary measure to ensure that seafood from the Gulf will remain safe for consumers. The closed area now represents 78,182 square miles, which is approximately 32 percent of Gulf of Mexico federal waters. This leaves more than 68 percent of Gulf federal waters available for fishing. Details can be found at

<http://sero.nmfs.noaa.gov/>.

By the Numbers to Date:

- The administration has authorized 17,500 National Guard troops from Gulf Coast states to participate in the response to the BP oil spill.
- More than 20,000 personnel are currently responding to protect the shoreline and wildlife and cleanup vital coastlines.
- More than 1,900 vessels are responding on site, including skimmers, tugs, barges, and recovery vessels to assist in containment and cleanup efforts—in addition to dozens of aircraft, remotely operated vehicles, and multiple mobile offshore drilling units.

- Approximately 2 million feet of containment boom and 2.3 million feet of sorbent boom have been deployed to contain the spill—and approximately 745,000 feet of containment boom and 2.1 million feet of sorbent boom are available.
- Approximately 15 million gallons of an oil-water mix have been recovered.
- Approximately 1.02 million gallons of total dispersant have been deployed—765,000 on the surface and 255,000 subsea. More than 450,000 gallons are available.
- 125 controlled burns have been conducted, efficiently removing a total of more than 3.2 million gallons of oil from the open water in an effort to protect shoreline and wildlife.
- 17 staging areas are in place and ready to protect sensitive shorelines, including: Dauphin Island, Ala., Orange Beach, Ala., Theodore, Ala., Panama City, Fla., Pensacola, Fla., Port St. Joe, Fla., St. Marks, Fla., Amelia, La., Cocodrie, La., Grand Isle, La., Shell Beach, La., Slidell, La., St. Mary, La.; Venice, La., Biloxi, Miss., Pascagoula, Miss., and Pass Christian, Miss.

THURSDAY, JUNE 3

Obama Administration Sends BP a Preliminary Bill for \$69 Million

The Obama administration sent a preliminary bill for \$69.09 million to BP and other responsible parties for response and recovery operations relating to the BP/Deepwater Horizon Oil Spill. To provide full transparency of the ongoing efforts and to ensure that the American public is not held accountable for the costs of response and recovery activities, the Administration will continue to bill BP regularly for all associated costs to ensure the Oil Spill Liability Trust Fund is reimbursed on an ongoing basis.

As a responsible party, BP is financially responsible for all costs associated with the response to the spill, including efforts to stop the leak at its source, reduce the spread of oil, protect the shoreline and mitigate damages, as well as long term recovery efforts to ensure that all individuals and communities impacted by the spill are made whole.

BP Completes Riser Shear Operation and Continues to Ready Containment Device

Under the federal government's direction, BP cut off a portion of the riser and is now preparing its attempt to lower a device over the area that will allow them to try and capture a substantial amount of the oil leaking out.

Three independent methods were used by the National Incident Command's Flow Rate Technical Group (FRTG) to estimate the amount of flow, with the overlap between them being 12,000 to 19,000 barrels per day. Following the cut of the riser, estimates independent of the FRTG show the flow could increase by as much as 20 percent. The FRTG will be studying the increased flow closely to better determine the new flow rate. It's important to keep in mind that small increases in the flow rate may be difficult to resolve.

Admiral Allen Provides Operational Update for Unified Area Command

National Incident Commander Admiral Thad Allen provided a briefing to inform the American public and answer questions on the progress of the administration-wide response to the BP oil spill from the U.S. Coast Guard Sector New Orleans in Metairie, La. A transcript is available

<http://www.deepwaterhorizonresponse.com/go/doc/2931/587847/>.

Science Summit Addresses Environmental Impacts of BP Oil SPill

The Consortium for Ocean Leadership today hosted a science symposium in Baton Rouge, sponsored by NOAA and other federal agencies, to discuss the urgent science issues involved in both short-term response actions and long-term monitoring of environmental impacts relating to the BP oil spill.

This science symposium builds on the unprecedented mobilization of science by the federal government, which has engaged the world's brightest scientific minds from the public and private sector. Academic and research scientists from across the country discussed the unique contributions that non-federal researchers can make to help ensure that the highest quality data is collected and disseminated.

Secretary Chu and Secretary Salazar Continue Oversight of BP's Containment Strategies

At the direction of the President, U.S. Energy Secretary Steven Chu and Interior Secretary Ken Salazar continued their visit to Houston, continuing their work on innovative strategies to leverage the best science and engineering minds from across the federal government, academia and the private sector to contain the BP oil spill. The trip marks Secretary Chu's third trip to Houston and Secretary Salazar's eighth trip to the Gulf region.

Secretary Chu and his team of scientists from the Energy Department's National Laboratories, along with Secretary Salazar and U.S. Geological Survey Director Marcia McNutt, are overseeing the LMRP containment cap operation, conducting independent analysis of the data and operational plans to help maximize the chances of success.

EPA Administrator Meets with Local Officials on Environmental Impact of BP spill

Continuing her fourth trip to the Gulf Coast, EPA Administrator Lisa Jackson provided a briefing for approximately 45 local mayors and elected officials from Mississippi and Alabama on the EPA's ongoing efforts to protect local residents and monitor air, water and sediment quality in the Gulf Coast region. Administrator Jackson also toured the Incident Command Post in Mobile, Ala., and visited an EPA mobile air monitoring vehicle near Dauphin Island.

Secretary Vilsack Pledges USDA Nutrition Assistance for Impacted Gulf States

Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack has sent letters to Gulf Coast governors pledging USDA's support and technical assistance to impacted states to provide access to the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program for thousands of low-income individuals in the region—including those affected by the BP oil spill.

In addition, other USDA nutrition assistance programs such as the Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children; the National School Lunch and School Breakfast Programs; the Summer Food Service Program; and the Emergency Food Assistance Program are available to help children and their families dealing with the economic effects of the oil spill. USDA will continue to work with the Gulf States to reach all those that are eligible.

Coastal Impact Survey Teams are Deployed in Alabama

In preparation for encroaching oil on Alabama's barrier islands, thirteen teams were deployed—surveying fourteen miles of the coastline via sea, ground and air.

Commerce Secretary Announces Fishery Failure Determination for Florida

U.S. Commerce Secretary Gary Locke has determined there has been a fishery disaster in Florida due to the economic impact on commercial and recreational fisheries from the BP oil spill—increasing the affected area from the May 24 determination which included Louisiana, Mississippi and Alabama.

The disaster determination was made in response to requests from Florida Governor Charlie Crist and U.S. Senator Bill Nelson based on the loss of access to many commercial fisheries and the existing and anticipated environmental damage from this unprecedented event. The determination allows the federal government to mobilize a range of assistance measures for Florida fishing communities.

Coast Guard Responds to Reports of Oil Pollution in Florida Keys

U.S. Coast Guard pollution investigators from Sector Key West are responding to reports of an oily substance and tar balls near Duck Key, Long Key, and Grassy Key, Fla. While the Coast Guard aggressively responds to all reports of pollution, it will require sampling and testing to determine if any pollution is related to the Deepwater Horizon/BP oil spill. To date, none of the previous reports have been related.

Officials Continue to Ready National Parks for Potential Impacts by Oil

National Parks Service personnel continue to conduct daily surveys and make the necessary preparations for the possible arrival of BP's leaking oil.

Property Damage Claims Processed

The administration will continue to hold the responsible parties accountable for repairing the damage, and repaying Americans who've suffered a financial loss as a result of the BP oil spill. BP reports that 33,257 claims have been opened, from which more than \$42.9 million have been disbursed. No claims have been denied to date. There are more than 510 claims adjusters on the ground. To file a claim, visit

www.bp.com/claims or call BP's helpline at 1-800-440-0858.

Those who have already pursued the BP claims process and are not satisfied with BP's resolution can call the Coast Guard at (800) 280-7118.

SBA Economic Injury Assistance Loans Approved for Louisiana

The Small Business Administration has approved 35 economic injury assistance loans to date, totaling \$1,222,800, for small businesses in Louisiana impacted by the BP oil spill. Additionally, the agency has granted deferments on 246 existing SBA disaster loans in the Gulf Coast region, totaling \$982,800 per month in payments. For information on assistance loans for affected businesses, visit the SBA's Web site at

www.sba.gov/services/disasterassistance, call (800) 659-2955 (800-877-8339 for the hearing impaired), or email disastercustomerservice@sba.gov.

By the Numbers to Date:

- The administration has authorized 17,500 National Guard troops from Gulf Coast states to participate in the response to the BP oil spill.
- More than 20,000 personnel are currently responding to protect the shoreline and wildlife and cleanup vital coastlines.
- More than 1,900 vessels are responding on site, including skimmers, tugs, barges, and recovery vessels to assist in containment and cleanup efforts—in addition to dozens of aircraft, remotely operated vehicles, and multiple mobile offshore drilling units.
- Approximately 2 million feet of containment boom and 2.2 million feet of sorbent boom have been deployed to contain the spill—and approximately 654,000 feet of containment boom and 1.7 million feet of sorbent boom are available.
- Approximately 14.8 million gallons of an oil-water mix have been recovered.
- Approximately 993,000 gallons of total dispersant have been deployed—759,000 on the surface and 245,000 subsea. More than 455,000 gallons are available.
- 125 controlled burns have been conducted, efficiently removing a total of more than 3.2 million gallons of oil from the open water in an effort to protect shoreline and wildlife.
- 17 staging areas are in place and ready to protect sensitive shorelines, including: Dauphin Island, Ala., Orange Beach, Ala., Theodore, Ala., Panama City, Fla., Pensacola, Fla., Port St. Joe, Fla., St. Marks, Fla., Amelia, La., Cocodrie, La., Grand Isle, La., Shell Beach, La., Slidell, La., St. Mary, La.; Venice, La., Biloxi, Miss., Pascagoula, Miss., and Pass Christian, Miss.

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 2

Admiral Allen Provides Operational Update for Unified Area Command

National Incident Commander Admiral Thad Allen today provided a briefing to inform the American public and answer questions on the progress of the administration-wide response to the BP oil spill from the Incident Command Post in Houma, La., the headquarters for response operations for the state of Louisiana. A transcript is available [here](#).

Administrator Lubchenco Outlines Role of Science BP Oil Spill Response

Admiral Allen was joined at his briefing by NOAA Administrator Dr. Jane Lubchenco, who outlined the critical role that science has played in the U.S. Government's response to the Deepwater BP oil spill. From the beginning, the administration's response to this unprecedented event has been based on the best science available in both the public and private sectors, as responders have worked to measure and mitigate the impacts of the oil, monitor air and water conditions and assess any and all impacts to the environment as well as human health.

Administrator Lubchenco also highlighted the NOAA Ship Thomas Jefferson, which returned to sea today to continue conducting research including the collection of water samples and the net sampling of pelagic species throughout the water column. Read her full remarks here:

<http://www.deepwaterhorizonresponse.com/go/doc/2931/581707/>

Administrator Jackson Observes Cleanup Efforts of Impacted Shoreline

Continuing her fourth trip to the Gulf Coast, EPA Administrator Lisa Jackson observed ongoing efforts to survey and clean up impacted beaches and wetlands in Port Fourchon Beach, Grand Isle Beach and Cocodrie Bay, La.

Admiral Allen Approves Five Additional Barrier Island Projects to Protect Louisiana

Consistent with all the work undertaken in recent weeks to assess Louisiana's barrier island proposal and gather input from local officials, environmental experts, and top scientists and engineers, Admiral Allen directed BP to pay for five additional barrier island projects in addition to the one he approved last week as part of our continuing commitment to do everything possible to protect our vital coastal communities from BP's leaking oil. Based on a thorough expert analysis, the administration believes that these six total projects, which will be constructed expeditiously in the areas most at risk for long-term impact by oil, will effectively stem potential damage to these fragile shorelines.

Notifying Governor Jindal of his determination this afternoon, Admiral Allen reiterated that this administration will hold BP responsible for providing full payment for any strategy that will protect our valuable coastal communities from the impacts of their catastrophe.

Admiral Allen Announces that Response Assets are being Moved to All Gulf States

In addition, the administration is moving critical response assets across all the Gulf Coast states in preparation for potential near- and long-term oil impacts. In Alabama, the Coast Guard Cutter Cypress arrived in Mobile Bay today to protect Dauphin Island from the north and west. Tomorrow, we will commence a surge of boom to Alabama's Katrina Pass that will be positioned to create a funnel to collect oil that comes in with the tide. Additionally, we have deployed four coast patrol boats to coordinate response in Alabama's coastal waters.

Four helicopters are being deployed to the Alabama, Mississippi and Florida coast to provide surveillance information to help skimmers position their efforts strategically to collect the most oil threatening the shore possible. The Coast Guard Cutter Tampa has a flight deck that will allow for these helicopters to refuel offshore, and the Coast Guard Cutter Elm is currently in the area off the coast of Pensacola, Fla., working around the clock to skim oil from the surface.

Fishing Restrictions Expanded; One Section Re-Opened; 63 Percent Remains Open

NOAA has expanded some boundaries of the closed fishing area in the Gulf of Mexico to capture portions of the slick moving beyond the current boundaries the most significant expansion includes an area off southwest Florida that covers waters just to the west of the Dry Tortugas this federal closure does not apply to any state waters. Closing fishing in these areas is a precautionary measure to ensure that seafood from the Gulf will remain safe for consumers. Additionally, the agency reopened a 2,637 square mile area of the western-most boundary south of Louisiana. Oil was projected to be in this area, but was never actually observed there.

The closed area now represents 88,502 square miles, which is approximately 37 percent of Gulf of Mexico federal waters. This leaves more than 63 percent of Gulf federal waters available for fishing.

Details can be found at: <http://sero.nmfs.noaa.gov/>.

Property Damage Claims Processed

The administration will continue to hold the responsible parties accountable for repairing the damage, and repaying Americans who have suffered a financial loss as a result of the BP oil spill. BP reports that 31,987 claims have been opened, from which more than \$40.2 million have been disbursed. No claims have been denied to date. There are more than 510 claims adjusters on the ground. To file a claim, visit www.bp.com/claims or call BP is helpline at 1-800-440-0858. Those who have already pursued the BP claims process and are not satisfied with BP is resolution can call the Coast Guard at 1 (800) 280-7118.

SBA Approves Additional Deferments on Existing SBA Disaster Loans

The Small Business Administration has granted deferments on 219 existing SBA disaster loans for small businesses in the Gulf Coast region impacted by the BP oil spill, totaling \$892,300 per month in payments in addition to the 33 economic injury assistance loans, totaling \$1,192,300, for impacted small businesses in Louisiana. For information on assistance loans for affected businesses, visit the SBA's Web site at www.sba.gov/services/disasterassistance, call:

1 (800) 659-2955 (800-877-8339 for the hearing impaired), or email disastercustomerservice@sba.gov.

By the Numbers to Date:

- The administration has authorized 17,500 National Guard troops from Gulf Coast states to participate in the response to the BP oil spill.
- More than 20,000 personnel are currently responding to protect the shoreline and wildlife and cleanup vital coastlines.
- More than 1,900 vessels are responding on site, including skimmers, tugs, barges, and recovery vessels to assist in containment and cleanup efforts in addition to dozens of aircraft, remotely operated vehicles, and multiple mobile offshore drilling units.
- Approximately 2 million feet of containment boom and 2.1 million feet of sorbent boom have been deployed to contain the spill and approximately 625,000 feet of containment boom and 1.8 million feet of sorbent boom are available.
- Approximately 13.8 million gallons of an oil-water mix have been recovered.
- Approximately 993,000 gallons of total dispersant have been deployed 755,000 on the surface and 238,000 subsea. More than 364,000 gallons are available.
- 125 controlled burns have been conducted, efficiently removing a total of more than 3.2 million gallons of oil from the open water in an effort to protect shoreline and wildlife.
- 17 staging areas are in place and ready to protect sensitive shorelines, including: Dauphin Island, Ala., Orange Beach, Ala., Theodore, Ala., Panama City, Fla., Pensacola, Fla., Port St. Joe, Fla., St. Marks, Fla., Amelia, La., Cocodrie, La., Grand Isle, La., Shell Beach, La., Slidell, La., St. Mary, La.; Venice, La., Biloxi, Miss., Pascagoula, Miss., and Pass Christian, Miss.

TUESDAY, JUNE 1

The President Meets with BP Oil Spill Commission Co-Chairs

President Obama met with former U.S. Senator Bob Graham of Florida and former EPA Administrator Bill Reilly, who last week he named co-chairs to lead the bipartisan National Commission on the BP Deepwater Horizon Oil Spill and Offshore Drilling.

Following the meeting, the President said their job is to thoroughly examine the spill and its causes, so that we never face such a catastrophe again.

The President signed an executive order establishing the National Commission on the BP Deepwater Horizon Oil Spill and Offshore Drilling to take a comprehensive look at how the oil and gas industry operates and how we regulate them. It will consider both the root causes of the disaster and offer options on what safety and environmental precautions we need to take to prevent a similar disaster from happening again, and will issue a report within six months.

EPA Administrator Meets with Louisiana Seafood Promotion & Marketing Board

Administrator Jackson continued her fourth trip to the Gulf Coast, joining representatives from NOAA to meet with the Louisiana Seafood Promotion & Marketing Board today to discuss the

impacts of the BP oil spill on the commercial seafood industry. She also met with responders and officials overseeing shoreline cleanup work in Houma, La., to discuss vital marsh assessment and cleanup activities.

Admiral Allen Provides Operational Update for Unified Area Command

National Incident Commander Admiral Thad Allen delivered the first of his daily briefings to inform the American public and answer questions on the progress of the administration-wide response to the BP oil spill at the Port of New Orleans. A transcript is available [here](#).

Attorney General Holder Makes Initial Visit to the Gulf Coast

Attorney General Eric Holder visited Louisiana to meet with personnel working to mitigate the spill's impacts on vital shorelines and coordinate the administration's legal response to the BP oil spill. Department of Justice representatives also met with Attorneys General and U.S. Attorneys for the states and districts whose coastlines and citizens have been impacted by oil from the spill.

Attorney General Holder said that while stopping the leak, containing and cleaning up the oil, and helping people in the region who have suffered financial loss remains the government's top priority, we must also ensure that anyone found responsible for this spill is held accountable. That means enforcing the appropriate civil and if warranted, criminal authorities to the full extent of the law.

Since the early stages of the response efforts, Justice Department attorneys have been in the Gulf to gather facts including reviewing the Clean Water Act, the Oil Pollution Act of 1990, the Migratory Bird Treaty and Endangered Species Acts, and other criminal statutes.

Gulf Fishing Restrictions Expanded; More than 68 Percent Remains Open

NOAA has extended the northern and southern boundaries of the closed fishing area in the Gulf of Mexico to include portions of the slick moving into waters off eastern Alabama and the western tip of the Florida panhandle, as well as some large patches of sheen moving onto the west Florida shelf and southward to Cuban waters. This federal closure does not apply to any state waters. Closing fishing in these areas is a precautionary measure to ensure that seafood from the Gulf will remain safe for consumers.

The closed area now represents 75,920 square miles, which is slightly more than 31 percent of Gulf of Mexico federal waters. This leaves more than 68 percent of Gulf federal waters available for fishing. Details can be found at <http://sero.nmfs.noaa.gov>.

Property Damage Claims Processed

The administration will continue to hold the responsible parties accountable for repairing the damage, and repaying Americans who have suffered a financial loss as a result of the BP oil spill. BP reports that 31,010 claims have been opened, from which \$39.4 million have been disbursed. No claims have been denied to date. There are more than 496 claims adjusters on the ground. To file a claim, visit www.bp.com/claims or call BP is helpline at 1-800-440-0858. Those who have already pursued the BP claims process and are not satisfied with BP is resolution can call the Coast Guard at:

1 (800) 280-7118.

SBA Economic Injury Assistance Loans Approved for Louisiana

The Small Business Administration has approved 33 economic injury assistance loans to date, totaling \$1,192,300, for small businesses in Louisiana impacted by the BP oil spill. Additionally, the agency has granted deferments on 158 existing SBA disaster loans in the Gulf Coast region. For information on assistance loans for affected businesses, visit the SBA is Web site at www.sba.gov/services/disasterassistance, call (800) 659-2955 (800-877-8339 for the hearing impaired), or email:

disastercustomerservice@sba.gov.

NOAA, Coast Guard and EPA Join St. Tammany Parish Community Forum

Representatives from NOAA, the Coast Guard and the EPA participated today in a community forum in St. Tammany Parish, La. organized by Sea Grant and Louisiana State University. Sea Grant is a nationwide network, administered by NOAA, comprised of 32 university-based programs that work with coastal communities.

By the Numbers to Date:

- The administration has authorized 17,500 National Guard troops from Gulf Coast states to participate in the response to the BP oil spill. More than 20,000 personnel are currently responding to protect the shoreline and wildlife and cleanup vital coastlines.
- More than 1,700 vessels are responding on site, including skimmers, tugs, barges, and recovery vessels to assist in containment and cleanup efforts in addition to dozens of aircraft, remotely operated vehicles, and multiple mobile offshore drilling units.
- Approximately 1.96 million feet of containment boom and 2 million feet of sorbent boom have been deployed to contain the spill and approximately 620,000 feet of containment boom and 1.8 million feet of sorbent boom are available.
- Approximately 13.8 million gallons of an oil-water mix have been recovered. Approximately 980,000 gallons of total dispersant have been deployed 755,000 on the surface and 225,000 subsea.
- More than 420,000 gallons are available.

- More than 120 controlled burns have been conducted, efficiently removing a total of more than 2.8 million gallons of oil from the open water in an effort to protect shoreline and wildlife. 17 staging areas are in place and ready to protect sensitive shorelines, including: Dauphin Island, Ala., Orange Beach, Ala., Theodore, Ala., Panama City, Fla., Pensacola, Fla., Port St. Joe, Fla., St. Marks, Fla., Amelia, La., Cocodrie, La., Grand Isle, La., Shell Beach, La., Slidell, La., St. Mary, La.; Venice, La., Biloxi, Miss., Pascagoula, Miss., and Pass Christian, Miss.

MONDAY MAY 31

Secretary Salazar Continues His Eighth Trip to the Gulf Region

At the direction of President Obama, Secretary of the Interior Ken Salazar continued his eighth trip to the Gulf region to continue his oversight of BP operations and to support federal scientists who are working to contain the oil flowing from BP's leaking well. Secretary Salazar met with top BP officials, federal personnel and government scientists in Houston. While meeting with scientists and BP officials, Secretary Salazar emphasized the need to find an immediate, short-term solution to contain the leaking oil. The more permanent solution, the drilling of two relief wells can take up to several months to complete. U.S. government scientists, engineers and experts have been working with independent experts and BP officials on a variety of alternatives to contain the flow of oil immediately.

Progress Continues in Drilling Relief Wells

The Development Driller III continues to drill the first relief well to a depth of more than 12,000 feet 10 days ahead of schedule and is beginning to angle the well at 35 degrees. The Development Driller II has drilled the second relief well to a depth of 8,650 feet.

Favorable weather conditions allowed responders to conduct a successful controlled burn operation. As part of a coordinated response that combines tactics deployed above water, below water, offshore, and close to coastal areas, controlled burns efficiently remove oil from the open water in an effort to protect shoreline and wildlife. In total, more than 100 burns have been conducted to remove a total of 2.8 million gallons of oil from the water to date. Federal Mobile Medical Unit Arrives in Louisiana

A federal mobile medical unit arrived in Venice, La., today to provide additional basic medical care for responders and residents of coastal communities affected by the oil spill. The mobile medical unit, provided by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services in coordination with the Louisiana Department of Health and Hospitals, will integrate with the local medical community to triage and provide basic care for responders and residents concerned about health effects of the oil spill. Patients then can be referred to local healthcare providers or hospitals. Gulf Fishing Restrictions Expanded; 74 Percent Remains Open

NOAA extended the northern boundary of the closed fishing area in the Gulf of Mexico up to the Mississippi federal-state water line and portions of the Alabama federal-state water line this federal closure does not apply to any state waters. Closing fishing in these areas is a precautionary measure to ensure that seafood from the Gulf will remain safe for consumers.

The closed area now represents 61,854 square miles, which is slightly less than 26 percent of Gulf of Mexico federal waters. This leaves more than 74 percent of Gulf federal waters available for fishing.

Details can be found at: <http://sero.nmfs.noaa.gov/>.

This extension of the federal fishing closed area due to the Deepwater Horizon/BP oil spill coincides with the June 1 opening of the Gulf of Mexico recreational red snapper season, and will affect some areas targeted by charter boat captains and private anglers. However, NOAA Fisheries Service is increasing the level of data collection to more closely monitor the effects of the oil spill on Gulf recreational fishing. This will allow the agency to adjust the closure date for recreational fishing seasons as appropriate, including the red snapper season which is scheduled to close at 12:01 a.m. July 24. Property Damage Claims Processed

The administration will continue to hold the responsible parties accountable for repairing the damage, and repaying Americans who have suffered a financial loss as a result of the BP oil spill. BP continues to process claims via its claims website (www.bp.com/claims) and its helpline (1-800-440-0858). BP reports that 30,619 claims have been opened, from which \$39.4 million have been disbursed. No claims have been denied to date. There are more than 481 claims adjusters on the ground. To file a claim, visit www.bp.com/claims or call BP's helpline at 1-800-440-0858. Those who have already pursued the BP claims process and are not satisfied with BP's resolution can call the Coast Guard at:

1 (800) 280-7118.

Air and Ground Wildlife Rescue and Cleanup Assessment Missions Continue

Four wildlife rescue and survey flights were conducted, and 28 boat surveillance and recovery teams continue to patrol wetlands, beaches and shoreline areas to survey potentially impacted wildlife and assess impact by oil.

By the Numbers to Date:

- More than 20,000 personnel are currently responding to protect the shoreline and wildlife and cleanup vital coastlines.
- More than 1,700 vessels are responding on site, including skimmers, tugs, barges, and recovery vessels to assist in containment and cleanup efforts in addition to dozens of aircraft, remotely operated vehicles, and multiple mobile offshore drilling units.

- Approximately 1.95 million feet of containment boom and 1.85 million feet of sorbent boom have been deployed to contain the spill and approximately 610,000 feet of containment boom and 1.8 million feet of sorbent boom are available.
- Approximately 13.5 million gallons of an oil-water mix have been recovered.
- Approximately 950,000 gallons of total dispersant have been deployed 740,000 on the surface and 210,000 subsea. More than 430,000 gallons are available.
- 17 staging areas are in place and ready to protect sensitive shorelines, including: Dauphin Island, Ala., Orange Beach, Ala., Theodore, Ala., Panama City, Fla., Pensacola, Fla., Port St. Joe, Fla., St. Marks, Fla., Amelia, La., Cocodrie, La., Grand Isle, La., Shell Beach, La., Slidell, La., St. Mary, La.; Venice, La., Biloxi, Miss., Pascagoula, Miss., and Pass Christian, Miss.

SUNDAY, MAY 30

Government Scientists Estimate that BP s Pending Riser Cut Could Result in a Temporary Oil Flow Increase of up to 20 Percent

In order to ensure the American public receive the most accurate information, Assistant to the President for Energy and Climate Change Policy Carol Browner provided an estimate, calculated by government scientists, that BP s tactic involving cutting off a kinked portion of the riser and attempt to lower a device over the area allowing them to try and capture a substantial amount of the oil leaking out could result in a temporary increase in oil flow by as much as 20 percent until the containment device is applied over the leak. The Flow Rate Task Force will continue to evaluate a potential temporary increase as a result of this tactic and will provide any additional assessments as they become available.

Secretary Salazar Makes His Eighth Trip to the Gulf Region

At the direction of the President, Department of the Interior Secretary Ken Salazar made his eighth trip to the Gulf region to continue his work aggressively responding to the BP oil spill. His actions on scene are being coordinated by National Incident Commander Admiral Thad Allen, who is leading the administration-wide response and directing all interagency activities.

Secretary Salazar met with top BP officials, federal personnel and government scientists in Houston to get a firsthand account of the on-scene direction and oversight of BP's efforts to cap the leaking well.

Oil Impact Surveillance, Recovery and Rescue Teams Patrol Affected Area

28 boat surveillance and recovery teams have been deployed in the areas most impacted by the leaking oil, conducting active cleanup operations and patrolling wetlands, beaches and shoreline areas for wildlife and to ensure that cleanup crews were are operating effectively and reporting impacted wildlife. Four wildlife rescue and survey flights were conducted.

Progress Continues in Drilling Relief Wells

The Development Driller III and Development Driller II continue to drill the first relief well to a depth of 12,000 feet, and second relief well to a depth of 8,500 feet, respectively.

By the Numbers to Date:

- More than 20,000 personnel are currently responding to protect the shoreline and wildlife and cleanup vital coastlines.
- More than 1,400 vessels are responding on site, including skimmers, tugs, barges, and recovery vessels to assist in containment and cleanup efforts in addition to dozens of aircraft, remotely operated vehicles, and multiple mobile offshore drilling units.
- Approximately 1.9 million feet of containment boom and 1.85 million feet of sorbent boom have been deployed to contain the spill and approximately 500,000 feet of containment boom and 1.5 million feet of sorbent boom are available.
- Approximately 13.1 million gallons of an oil-water mix have been recovered.
- Approximately 920,000 gallons of total dispersant have been deployed 720,000 on the surface and 200,000 subsea. More than 430,000 gallons are available.
- 17 staging areas are in place and ready to protect sensitive shorelines, including: Dauphin Island, Ala., Orange Beach, Ala., Theodore, Ala., Panama City, Fla., Pensacola, Fla., Port St. Joe, Fla., St. Marks, Fla., Amelia, La., Cocodrie, La., Grand Isle, La., Shell Beach, La., Slidell, La., St. Mary, La.; Venice, La., Biloxi, Miss., Pascagoula, Miss., and Pass Christian, Miss.

SATURDAY, MAY 29

BP Halts Top Kill Attempt; Lays Out Next Steps

BP announced that it will case its unsuccessful attempt to use the top kill technique to cap the well a decision made under approval and consultation with federal government scientists and engineers, including Energy Secretary Steven Chu. BP will now cut off a kinked portion of the riser and attempt to lower a device over the area that will allow them to try and capture a substantial amount of the oil leaking out.

The President issued the following statement: Today, I've spoken with National Incident Commander Admiral Thad Allen, as well as Energy Secretary Steven Chu, Interior Secretary Ken Salazar, EPA Administrator Lisa Jackson, and senior White House advisors John Brennan and Carol Browner regarding the ongoing efforts to stop the BP oil spill. From the beginning, our concern has been that the surest way to stop the flow of oil the drilling of relief wells would

take several months to complete. So engineers and experts have explored a variety of alternatives to stop the leak now. They had hoped that the top kill approach attempted this week would halt the flow of oil and gas currently escaping from the seafloor. But while we initially received optimistic reports about the procedure, it is now clear that it has not worked. Rear Admiral Mary Landry today directed BP to launch a new procedure whereby the riser pipe will be cut and a containment structure fitted over the leak.

This approach is not without risk and has never been attempted before at this depth. That is why it was not activated until other methods had been exhausted. It will be difficult and will take several days. It is also important to note that while we were hopeful that the top kill would succeed, we were also mindful that there was a significant chance it would not. And we will continue to pursue any and all responsible means of stopping this leak until the completion of the two relief wells currently being drilled.

As I said yesterday, every day that this leak continues is an assault on the people of the Gulf Coast region, their livelihoods, and the natural bounty that belongs to all of us. It is as enraging as it is heartbreaking, and we will not relent until this leak is contained, until the waters and shores are cleaned up, and until the people unjustly victimized by this manmade disaster are made whole.

The President Dispatches Top Officials to Return to the Gulf Region

At the direction of the President, Department of the Interior Secretary Ken Salazar, Environmental Protection Agency Administrator Lisa Jackson and NOAA Administrator Jane Lubchenco will return to the Gulf region next week as they continue their work, aggressively responding to the BP oil spill.

These officials actions on scene will be coordinated by National Incident Commander Admiral Thad Allen, who is leading the administration-wide response and directing all interagency activities.

Administrator Jackson will make her fourth trip to the Gulf Coast to inspect coastline protection and cleanup activities and meet with community members to discuss ongoing efforts to mitigate the oil's impacts on public health and the environment. A native of the Gulf region, Administrator Jackson will spend a total of six days on the ground, visiting Louisiana, Mississippi and Alabama to review plans for cleanup of oil-impacted wetlands and marshes, analyze scientific monitoring of dispersant use, and ensure that recovery and cleanup plans are proceeding quickly.

Secretary Salazar will make his eighth trip to the area to meet with top BP officials, federal personnel and government scientists in Houston to get a firsthand account of the on-scene direction and oversight of BP's efforts to cap the leaking well. He will also participate in discussions with state, local and business leaders to discuss the ways the administration is supporting their communities during this catastrophe.

Administrator Lubchenco will make her third visit to the affected area to meet with top government and independent scientists and engineers who are working with BP and coordinating efforts across the federal government to ensure the best science is used to assess and mitigate the BP oil spill's impacts to the environment.

Visits by Senior Officials to the Affected Region Total 28

In total, senior administration officials have visited the region 28 times since BP's oil rig exploded on April 20 including trips by the President, National Incident Commander Admiral Thad Allen, Interior Secretary Salazar, EPA Administrator Jackson, Homeland Security Secretary Janet Napolitano, Energy Secretary Steven Chu, Commerce Secretary Gary Locke, Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff Admiral Mike Mullen, NOAA Administrator Lubchenco and SBA Administrator Karen Mills.

Progress Continues in Drilling Relief Wells

The Development Driller III and Development Driller II continue to drill the first and second relief wells, respectively.

By the Numbers to Date:

- Personnel were quickly deployed and more than 20,000 are currently responding to protect the shoreline and wildlife.
- More than 1,400 vessels are responding on site, including skimmers, tugs, barges, and recovery vessels to assist in containment and cleanup efforts in addition to dozens of aircraft, remotely operated vehicles, and multiple mobile offshore drilling units.
- Approximately 1.9 million feet of containment boom and 1.8 million feet of sorbent boom have been deployed to contain the spill and approximately 390,000 feet of containment boom and 1.27 million feet of sorbent boom are available.
- Approximately 12.1 million gallons of an oil-water mix have been recovered
- Approximately 910,000 gallons of total dispersant have been deployed 720,000 on the surface and 180,000 subsea. More than 450,000 gallons are available.
- 17 staging areas are in place and ready to protect sensitive shorelines, including: Dauphin Island, Ala., Orange Beach, Ala., Theodore, Ala., Panama City, Fla., Pensacola, Fla., Port St. Joe, Fla., St. Marks, Fla., Amelia, La., Cocodrie, La., Grand Isle, La., Shell Beach, La., Slidell, La., St. Mary, La.; Venice, La., Biloxi, Miss., Pascagoula, Miss., and Pass Christian, Miss.

FRIDAY, MAY 28

The President Makes Second Trip to the Gulf Coast to View Response Firsthand

President Obama traveled to the Gulf Coast to get another first-hand look at the progress of the response efforts and to be briefed by those on the ground. The President spoke to the frustration felt by those in the local community and across America and discussed extensively what he saw touring the tragedy this morning. The President also commended those in the area who have rolled up their sleeves to help with the clean up, saying that we're in this together.

The President announced that he has directed Secretary Napolitano and Admiral Allen to triple the manpower in the places where oil has hit the shore or is within 24 hours of impact in order to further intensify what is already an historic response effort, contain and remove oil more quickly, and help minimize the time that any oil comes into contact with our coastline.

The President also stressed that everyone in Louisiana and across this region is working night and day to end this crisis. He said the federal government is considering every idea out there, especially from the folks who know these communities the best and emphasized to all Gulf Coast leaders he met with that if something is not going right, if there is an idea, a suggestion, or a logjam that needs to be dealt with, that there is no one who can't get in touch with himself directly.

At the briefing in Grand Isle, La., the President was joined by National Incident Commander Thad Allen, Louisiana Governor Bobby Jindal, Alabama Governor Bob Riley, Florida Governor Charlie Crist, U.S. Senators Mary Landrieu and David Vitter, Congressman Charlie Melancon, Jefferson Parish President Billy Nungesser and LaFourche Parish President Charlotte Randolph.

In total, senior administration officials have visited the region 26 times since BP's oil rig exploded on April 20 including trips by the President, Interior Secretary Salazar, EPA Administrator Jackson, Admiral Allen, Homeland Security Secretary Janet Napolitano, Energy Secretary Steven Chu, Commerce Secretary Gary Locke, Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff Admiral Mike Mullen, NOAA Administrator Jane Lubchenco and SBA Administrator Karen Mills.

Energy Secretary Chu Oversees Top Kill Procedure at BP Command Center

At the request of President Obama, Secretary Chu has been at BP's Command Center in Houston monitoring the ongoing top kill attempt analyzing the data in real time and helping to develop strategies to give it the best chances of success. In the days leading up to the top kill attempt, Secretary Chu and his team of National Laboratory scientists provided expert advice and technical support to test the assumptions behind BP's work and to offer analytical rigor.

NOAA Ships Study Subsurface Plume and Currents

The NOAA Ship Gordon Gunter is currently conducting sampling in the Gulf, and will expand its mission to use its sophisticated sonar equipment and other scientific instruments to help define the subsurface plume near the BP Deepwater Horizon oil spill site a collaborative project among NOAA, academia and the private sector.

If potential plumes are identified, the 224-ft. Gunter will deploy a unique autonomous underwater vehicle to take water samples at various depths to allow precise characterization of any oil, dispersants, or other substances in the plume. Also aboard is a graduated net used for sampling fish larvae at different depths.

Another NOAA Ship, the Thomas Jefferson, arrived this morning in New Orleans following a five-day mission to gather data on surface and deep currents that are distributing the oil. On June 1, the 204-foot survey vessel will set sail again to conduct sonar surveys, measure water chemistry, and take water samples.

SBA Approves more Than \$1 million in Economic Injury Assistance Loans for Louisiana

SBA has approved 27 economic injury assistance loans to date, totaling \$1,008,000, for small businesses in Louisiana impacted by the BP oil spill. Additionally, the agency has granted deferments on 158 existing SBA disaster loans in the Gulf Coast region.

Fishing Closures Expanded in the Gulf of Mexico

As a precautionary measure to ensure that seafood from the Gulf will remain safe for consumers, NOAA has expanded the closed fishing area to an area that now represents 60,683 square miles approximately 25 percent of Gulf of Mexico federal waters leaving approximately 75 percent still available for fishing. Closing fishing in these areas is. Details can be found at <http://sero.nmfs.noaa.gov/>.

NOAA continues to work closely with the Food and Drug Administration and the states to ensure seafood safety. According to NOAA, there are approximately 5.7 million recreational fishermen in the Gulf of Mexico region who took 25 million fishing trips in 2008. Commercial fishermen in the Gulf harvested more than one billion pounds of fish and shellfish in 2008. Fishermen who wish to contact BP about a claim should call 800-440-0858.

Property Damage Claims Processed

The administration will continue to hold the responsible parties accountable for repairing the damage and repaying Americans who've suffered a financial loss. To date, BP reports that 28,233 claims have been opened, from which \$37.4 million has been disbursed. There are 440 claims adjusters on the ground. To file a claim with BP, visit www.bp.com/claims or call BP's helpline at (800) 440-0858. Those who have already pursued the BP claims process and are not satisfied with BP's resolution, can call the Coast Guard at (800) 280-7118.

Successful Controlled Burn

Favorable weather conditions allowed responders to conduct a successful controlled burn operation. As part of a coordinated response that combines tactics deployed above water, below water, offshore, and close to coastal areas, controlled burns efficiently remove oil from the open water in an effort to protect shoreline and wildlife.

By the Numbers to Date:

- Personnel were quickly deployed and approximately 20,000 are currently responding to protect the shoreline and wildlife.
- Approximately 1,400 vessels are responding on site, including skimmers, tugs, barges, and recovery vessels to assist in containment and cleanup efforts in addition to dozens of aircraft, remotely operated vehicles, and multiple mobile offshore drilling units.
- Approximately 1.9 million feet of containment boom and 1.5 million feet of sorbent boom have been deployed to contain the spill and approximately 250,000 feet of containment boom and 950,000 feet of sorbent boom are available.
- Approximately 11.8 million gallons of an oil-water mix have been recovered.
- Approximately 870,000 gallons of total dispersant have been deployed 700,000 on the surface and 170,000 subsea. More than 400,000 gallons are available.
- 17 staging areas are in place and ready to protect sensitive shorelines, including: Dauphin Island, Ala., Orange Beach, Ala., Theodore, Ala., Panama City, Fla., Pensacola, Fla., Port St. Joe, Fla., St. Marks, Fla., Amelia, La., Cocodrie, La., Grand Isle, La., Shell Beach, La., Slidell, La., St. Mary, La.; Venice, La., Biloxi, Miss., Pascagoula, Miss., and Pass Christian, Miss.

THURSDAY, MAY 27

The President Updates the American People on the Spill and the Government's Response

The President updated the American people on the status of the BP oil spill. The President said the federal government is directing the effort to contain and cleanup the damage from the spill which is now the largest effort of its kind in U.S. history. The President also discussed what the government is doing to help the men and women whose livelihoods have been disrupted and even destroyed by this spill as well as the steps he is taking to ensure that a catastrophe like this never happens again. His full remarks can be found [here](#).

BP's Top Kill Procedure Continues

BP continued its attempted top kill procedure to cap the well. The procedure has been approved by the Coast Guard, acting on the validation of government scientists and in consultation with the National Incident Commander Admiral Thad Allen.

Federal-Independent-Academic Team Releases Initial Flow Rate Assessment

The National Incident Command's Flow Rate Technical Group (FRTG) has developed an independent, preliminary estimate of the amount of oil flowing from BP's leaking oil well.

The independent analysis of the Flow Rate Technical Group has determined that the overall best initial estimate for the lower and upper boundaries of flow rates of oil is in the range of 12,000 and 19,000 barrels per day.

The FRTG used three separate methodologies to calculate their initial estimate, available here, which they deemed the most scientifically-sound approach, because measurement of the flow of oil is extremely challenging, given the environment, unique nature of the flow, limited visibility, and lack of human access to BP's leaking oil well.

Since day one, the Administration's deployments of resources and tactics in response to the BP oil spill have been based on a worst-case, catastrophic scenario, and have not been contained by flow rate estimates.

Boom is Surged to Coastal Areas Experiencing Greatest Oil Impact

More than 100,000 feet of boom has been surged to the Louisiana parishes that are facing the greatest risk from the oil.

Admiral Allen Approves a Section of Louisiana's Barrier Island Proposal

Admiral Allen, approved the implementation of a section of Louisiana's barrier island project proposal that could help stop oil from coming ashore and where work could be completed the fastest as an integrated part of the federal response to the BP oil spill.

This step will save Louisiana the cost of construction for this section by integrating it with the federal government's ongoing oil spill response thus paving the road for payment by BP, as a responsible party, or the federal Oil Spill Liability Trust Fund.

It will also allow assessment of the effectiveness and environmental impacts of this strategy in one of the areas most at risk of long-term impact by BP's leaking oil.

The President is Briefed on the Outlook for the 2010 Hurricane Season

President Obama was briefed by FEMA Administrator Craig Fugate, Homeland Security Secretary Janet Napolitano, NOAA Administrator Dr. Jane Lubchenco and National Hurricane Center Director Bill Read, as well as five FEMA Regional Administrators adding their local perspective, on the outlook for hurricane season and the federal government's efforts to prepare all federal partners, state and local governments, the private sector and the public for hurricanes and other emergencies.

The President stressed that the government must ensure we consider the effects the BP oil spill could have on storms, response capabilities, and recovery efforts in planning for this year's season but that those considerations do not change the primary mission of emergency management officials during a response, which is to support state efforts to protect lives and property.

Successful Controlled Burn

Favorable weather conditions allowed responders to conduct a successful controlled burn operation. As part of a coordinated response that combines tactics deployed above water, below

water, offshore, and close to coastal areas, controlled burns efficiently remove oil from the open water in an effort to protect shoreline and wildlife.

Community Town Halls Held

Representatives from Coast Guard, EPA, Department of Commerce BP and state and local officials participated in town hall meetings in Pascagoula, Miss., Pensacola, Fla., and Gulf Port, Miss., to provide an update on the response to Deepwater Horizon BP oil spill and continue the dialogue with members of the community, local business leaders and other organizations.

By the Numbers to Date:

- Personnel were quickly deployed and approximately 20,000 are currently responding to protect the shoreline and wildlife.
- Approximately 1,300 vessels are responding on site, including skimmers, tugs, barges, and recovery vessels to assist in containment and cleanup efforts in addition to dozens of aircraft, remotely operated vehicles, and multiple mobile offshore drilling units.
- More than 1.88 million feet of containment boom and 1.25 million feet of sorbent boom have been deployed to contain the spill and approximately 280,000 feet of containment boom and 1 million feet of sorbent boom are available.
- Approximately 11.5 million gallons of an oil-water mix have been recovered.
- Approximately 850,000 gallons of total dispersant have been deployed 700,000 on the surface and 150,000 subsea. More than 400,000 gallons are available.
- 17 staging areas are in place and ready to protect sensitive shorelines, including: Dauphin Island, Ala., Orange Beach, Ala., Theodore, Ala., Panama City, Fla., Pensacola, Fla., Port St. Joe, Fla., St. Marks, Fla., Amelia, La., Cocodrie, La., Grand Isle, La., Shell Beach, La., Slidell, La., St. Mary, La.; Venice, La., Biloxi, Miss., Pascagoula, Miss., and Pass Christian, Miss.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 26

Admiral Landry Approves BP s Top Kill Technique; Procedure Begins

Federal On-Scene Coordinator Rear Admiral Mary Landry, acting on the validation of government scientists and in consultation with the National Incident Commander Admiral Thad Allen, has granted approval for BP to begin proceeding with their attempt to cap the well using the technique known as the top kill.

This expedited step provides the final authorization necessary to begin the procedure. BP began the procedure in the early afternoon.

Research Vessel Expands its Response Mission

The NOAA Ship Gordon Gunter, currently conducting sampling in the Gulf, will expand its mission to use its sophisticated sonar equipment and other scientific instruments to help define the plume near the Deepwater BP oil spill site and adjacent area. The mission is a collaborative project among NOAA, academia and the private sector.

Previously conducting plankton sampling in the south Gulf important to establish baseline conditions related to the oil spill, Gordon Gunter will begin additional work using its multibeam sonar that can scan subsurface features. Also aboard is a graduated net used for sampling at different depths. The 224-foot Gordon Gunter will conduct observations for fisheries, water, and acoustics sampling in the oil spill area and to the south.

Scientists Collaborate to Assess Unprecedented Usage of Dispersants

Interagency response partners are working with the Coastal Response Research Center, a partnership between NOAA and the University of New Hampshire, to bring leading scientists, practitioners, and representatives from federal and state governmental agencies and nongovernmental organizations together to address key questions arising from the unprecedented use of chemical dispersants in response to the BP oil spill.

Health Impact Surveillance Continues

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention is conducting surveillance in Louisiana, Mississippi, Texas, Alabama and Florida to detect any potential health effects related to the oil spill using established national surveillance systems, including the National Poison Data System (NPDS) and BioSense to track respiratory, vascular, and dermal issues.

CDC is also coordinating and clarifying procedures and case definitions for FDA and states to use with surveillance systems in detecting illnesses associated with consumption of oil contaminated products.

NIEHS Provides Support to Oil Spill Response Worker Training Efforts

The National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences Worker Education Training Program Emergency Support Activation Plan is augmenting the instructor resource pool with additional hazardous material trainers from the NIEHS network. NIEHS continues to work with BP's training contractors to provide continuous improvement to developed curricula to support the protection of workers.

Successful Controlled Burn

Favorable weather conditions allowed responders to conduct a successful controlled burn operation. As part of a coordinated response that combines tactics deployed above water, below water, offshore, and close to coastal areas, controlled burns efficiently remove oil from the open water in an effort to protect shoreline and wildlife.

By the Numbers to Date:

- Personnel were quickly deployed and more than 20,000 are currently responding to protect the shoreline and wildlife.
- Approximately 1,300 vessels are responding on site, including skimmers, tugs, barges, and recovery vessels to assist in containment and cleanup efforts in addition to dozens of aircraft, remotely operated vehicles, and multiple mobile offshore drilling units.
- More than 1.85 million feet of containment boom and 1.25 million feet of sorbent boom have been deployed to contain the spill and approximately 300,000 feet of containment boom and 1 million feet of sorbent boom are available.
- Approximately 11 million gallons of an oil-water mix have been recovered.
- Approximately 840,000 gallons of total dispersant have been deployed 700,000 on the surface and 140,000 subsea. More than 380,000 gallons are available.
- 17 staging areas are in place and ready to protect sensitive shorelines, including: Dauphin Island, Ala., Orange Beach, Ala., Theodore, Ala., Panama City, Fla., Pensacola, Fla., Port St. Joe, Fla., St. Marks, Fla., Amelia, La., Cocodrie, La., Grand Isle, La., Shell Beach, La., Slidell, La., St. Mary, La.; Venice, La., Biloxi, Miss., Pascagoula, Miss., and Pass Christian, Miss.

TUESDAY, MAY 25

The President Announces His Second Trip to the Gulf Coast to Inspect the Response

President Obama announced that he will travel to the Louisiana Gulf Coast to assess the latest efforts to counter the BP Deepwater Horizon oil spill. The President will join more than 22,000 people in the region, including many of the brightest scientific minds from both the public and private sector, who are working around the clock to mitigate the oil s impact.

SBA Approves \$571,000 in New Economic Injury Loans for Impacted Small Businesses

The U.S. Small Business Administration has approved 15 economic injury assistance loans totaling \$571,000 for small businesses in the Gulf Coast region. Additionally, the agency has granted deferments on 64 existing SBA disaster loans in the region.

SBA is offering economic injury loans and deferrals on existing loans to fishing and fishing-dependent small businesses as a result of the Deepwater BP oil spill that shut down commercial and recreational fishing waters. Additionally, homeowners in the region who have existing SBA disaster home loans can request a deferment if their business or employment has been impacted by the oil spill.

NOAA Ship is Dispatched to Deploy Special U.S. Navy Monitoring Instruments in Gulf

The NOAA Ship Thomas Jefferson is underway on a mission to deploy a variety of U.S. Navy ocean monitoring instruments in the vicinity of the BP Deepwater Horizon oil spill. The floats, drifters and autonomous underwater vehicles will aid researchers in monitoring the surface and deep currents that are distributing the oil. Of particular interest is the Loop Current and its potential to spread the oil to a much wider area.

Fishing Restrictions Are Expanded; More than 77 Percent Remains Open

NOAA has extended the closed fishing area in the Gulf of Mexico to match the Louisiana state waters closure west of the current boundaries, and to incorporate an area reportedly with oil in the southwest. Closing fishing in these areas is a precautionary measure to ensure that seafood from the Gulf will remain safe for consumers.

The closed area now represents 54,096 square miles, which is slightly more than 22 percent of Gulf of Mexico federal waters. This leaves more than 77 percent of Gulf federal waters still available for fishing. The closure will be effective at 6:00 p.m. EDT. Details can be found at: <http://sero.nmfs.noaa.gov/>.

Property Damage Claims Processed

The administration will continue to hold the responsible parties accountable for repairing the damage and repaying Americans who've suffered a financial loss. BP continues to process claims via its claims website (www.bp.com/claims) and its helpline (1-800-440-0858). BP reports that 25,227 claims have been opened, from which \$29.4 million has been disbursed. No claims have been denied at this time. There are more than 432 claims adjusters on the ground. To file a claim, visit www.bp.com/claims or call BP's helpline at 1-800-440-0858. Those who have already pursued the BP claims process and are not satisfied with BP's resolution, can call the Coast Guard at (800) 280-7118.

National Park Disaster Recovery Fund is Launched

The National Park Foundation and the National Park Service has established the National Parks Disaster Recovery Fund to help national parks recover from future natural and manmade disasters. The fund was immediately activated to begin raising funds that will be available to Gulf parks for immediate needs throughout the oil spill disaster as well as long-term monitoring of the health of damaged ecosystems.

No funds raised will be used to mitigate the liability of any responsible parties for the injuries caused by the oil spill.

Individuals wishing to support this effort may visit www.nationalparks.org, or text PARKS to 90999 on their mobile device to make a \$10 donation. Funds raised between now and July 1, 2010, will go directly to the impacted parks in the Gulf and support critical and immediate needs as well as sustained scientific study of maintenance of impacted ecosystems.

National Guard Activation

Secretary Gates has authorized use of Title 32 status for up to 17,500 National Guard members in four states: Alabama (3,000), Florida (2,500), Louisiana (6,000) and Mississippi (6,000). A total of 1,414 troops have been activated across the four states and are responding.

By the Numbers to Date:

- Personnel were quickly deployed and more than 22,000 are currently responding to protect the shoreline and wildlife.
- More than 1,200 vessels are responding on site, including skimmers, tugs, barges, and recovery vessels to assist in containment and cleanup efforts in addition to dozens of aircraft, remotely operated vehicles, and multiple mobile offshore drilling units.
- More than 1.8 million feet of containment boom and 990,000 feet of sorbent boom have been deployed to contain the spill and approximately 325,000 feet of containment boom and 1 million feet of sorbent boom are available.
- Approximately 11 million gallons of an oil-water mix have been recovered.
- Approximately 830,000 gallons of total dispersant have been deployed 700,000 on the surface and 130,000 subsea. More than 360,000 gallons are available.
- 17 staging areas are in place and ready to protect sensitive shorelines, including: Dauphin Island, Ala., Orange Beach, Ala., Theodore, Ala., Panama City, Fla., Pensacola, Fla., Port St. Joe, Fla., St. Marks, Fla., Amelia, La., Cocodrie, La., Grand Isle, La., Shell Beach, La., Slidell, La., St. Mary, La.; Venice, La., Biloxi, Miss., Pascagoula, Miss., and Pass Christian, Miss.

MONDAY, MAY 24

Secretary Napolitano and Secretary Salazar Visit Louisiana to Inspect Response

Secretary Salazar and Secretary Napolitano today visited Louisiana to inspect the ongoing, unprecedented federal response to the BP oil spill accompanied by a bipartisan Senate delegation including Senator Dick Durbin (D-IL), Senator Jeff Bingaman (D-NM), Senator Lisa Murkowski (R-AK), Senator Sheldon Whitehouse (D-RI), Senator Mary Landrieu (D-LA), and Senator David Vitter (R-LA).

In Louisiana, Secretary Salazar and Secretary Napolitano met with Governor Bobby Jindal and local community and industry leaders to discuss the latest response efforts in Louisiana and along the Gulf Coast with federal officials leading the effort as well as BP representatives.

They also conducted a flyover tour of the Louisiana coastline to view firsthand the spill's impact on these vital coastlines, and cleanup efforts underway.

The visit was Secretary Salazar's seventh and Secretary Napolitano's fourth visit to the Gulf Coast and the affected area since day one.

Fishery Failure is Determined, Balancing Economic and Public Health Needs

Commerce Secretary Gary Locke determined there has been a fishery disaster in the Gulf of Mexico due to the economic impact on commercial and recreational fisheries from the ongoing Deepwater Horizon oil spill. The affected area includes the states of Louisiana, Mississippi and Alabama.

This action was taken because of the potentially significant economic hardship this spill may cause fishermen and the businesses and communities that depend on those fisheries. The disaster determination will help ensure that the Federal government is in a position to mobilize the full range of assistance that fishermen and fishing communities may need.

Locke made the determination under Section 312(a) of the Magnuson-Stevens Act. The declaration was made in response to requests from Louisiana Governor Bobby Jindal and Mississippi Governor Haley Barbour based on the loss of access to many commercial fisheries and the existing and anticipated environmental damage from this unprecedented event.

BP Continues to Process Damage Claims

The administration will continue to hold the relevant companies accountable for repairing the damage and repaying Americans who've suffered a financial loss. BP continues to process claims via its claims website (www.bp.com/claims) and its helpline (1-800-440-0858). To file a claim, visit www.bp.com/claims or call BP's helpline at 1-800-440-0858. Those who have already pursued the BP claims process and are not satisfied with BP's resolution, can call the Coast Guard at: 1 (800) 280-7118.

NOAA Mobilizes Three Teams of Scientists to Collect Strategic Samples

In response to the Deepwater BP oil spill, NOAA's Mussel Watch program has mobilized three teams of scientists to test shellfish, sediment and water at 60 locations along the Gulf of Mexico from the Florida Keys to Brazos River, Texas.

The mission of this Mussel Watch effort is to collect additional baseline data on contamination in strategic areas of the Gulf shoreline so that if the oil hits a particular area, new samples can be taken that would reveal the full impact of the spill.

These preliminary samples will be tested for 60 oil-related compounds to include polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons, known as PAHs. NOAA will use this data as part of the natural resources damage assessment that determines the type and amount of restoration that is required for the Gulf.

Wildlife Rescue Flights and Observations Inform Booming Priorities

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service conducted overflights for reconnaissance, wildlife rescue missions and bird survey missions. One flight near the Biloxi Marsh observed two small islands

with nesting colonies of pelicans, gulls, and terns. In response, a request was submitted to place boom around these two islands.

Drilling Continues on Both Relief Wells

BP continues to make progress in drilling both relief wells more than 10,000 feet down for the first and more than 8,500 feet for the second.

By the Numbers to Date:

- Personnel were quickly deployed and more than 22,000 are currently responding to protect the shoreline and wildlife.
- More than 1,200 vessels are responding on site, including skimmers, tugs, barges, and recovery vessels to assist in containment and cleanup efforts in addition to dozens of aircraft, remotely operated vehicles, and multiple mobile offshore drilling units.
- More than 1.75 million feet of containment boom and 990,000 feet of sorbent boom have been deployed to contain the spill and approximately 380,000 feet of containment boom and 1 million feet of sorbent boom are available.
- Approximately 10.8 million gallons of an oil-water mix have been recovered.
- Approximately 815,000 gallons of total dispersant have been deployed 700,000 on the surface and 115,000 subsea. More than 300,000 gallons are available.
- 17 staging areas are in place and ready to protect sensitive shorelines, including: Dauphin Island, Ala., Orange Beach, Ala., Theodore, Ala., Panama City, Fla., Pensacola, Fla., Port St. Joe, Fla., St. Marks, Fla., Amelia, La., Cocodrie, La., Grand Isle, La., Shell Beach, La., Slidell, La., St. Mary, La.; Venice, La., Biloxi, Miss., Pascagoula, Miss., and Pass Christian, Miss.

SUNDAY, MAY 23

Secretary Salazar Meets with Federal Science Team Working at BP Command Center

Secretary Salazar traveled to the BP Command Center in Houston to meet with the federal science team that is working with BP officials, scientists and engineers to help stop the flow of oil from BP's well. Since day one, Secretary Salazar has continued to hold BP accountable for meeting critical deadlines as they attempt to close the well.

Oil Cleanup Efforts Continue to Build in Louisiana

Response personnel and Shoreline Cleanup and Assessment Teams, along with hundreds of volunteers, continue to clean the Louisiana coastal areas impacted by the Deepwater BP oil spill. Approximately 400 people, more than 300 vessels and 45 aircraft are on-scene in Iberia, Jefferson, Lafourche, Plaquemines, and Terrebonne Parishes investigating reports of oil, cleaning

impacted areas and evaluating response efforts to ensure the oil is removed with the most environmentally responsible methods.

Response crews and Shoreline Cleanup and Assessment Teams have positioned more than half a million feet of boom in the region. They are manually removing oil with shovels and rakes, skimming the oil off the surface, applying dispersant and conducting controlled burning operations at every opportunity to minimize coastal impact.

Additional response personnel and equipment is being surged into areas where modeling and aerial surveillance indicate a greater potential for shoreline impact. Anyone who locates oil on the shore should avoid contact and report the sighting to (866) 448-5816.

Fish and Wildlife Operations Continue to Expand

Assistant Secretary of Fish and Wildlife and Parks Tom Strickland visited Robert, Port Fourchon and Delta National Wildlife Refuge to oversee wildlife rescue missions and plans. Fish and Wildlife Service is working to expand their operations further to the west pursuant to reports of the oil spill impacting assets in that direction. Up to 10 personnel will be based out of Grand Isle and a barge will be moved to Trinity Island. An additional helicopter has been obtained to assist with wildlife rescue missions.

Property Damage Claims Processed

The administration will continue to hold the relevant companies accountable for repairing the damage and repaying Americans who have suffered a financial loss. BP continues to process claims via its claims website (www.bp.com/claims) and its helpline (1-800-440-0858). BP reports that 23,451 claims have been opened from which \$27.8 million has been disbursed. No claims have been denied at this time. There are more than 420 claims adjusters on the ground. To file a claim, visit www.bp.com/claims or call BP's helpline at 1-800-440-0858. Those who have already pursued the BP claims process and are not satisfied with BP's resolution, can call the Coast Guard at:

1 (800) 280-7118.

Controlled Burn Conducted

Favorable weather conditions allowed responders to conduct a successful controlled burn operation. As part of a coordinated response that combines tactics deployed above water, below water, offshore, and close to coastal areas, controlled burns efficiently remove oil from the open water in an effort to protect shoreline and wildlife.

By the Numbers to Date:

- Personnel were quickly deployed and more than 22,000 are currently responding to protect the shoreline and wildlife.

- More than 1,150 vessels are responding on site, including skimmers, tugs, barges, and recovery vessels to assist in containment and cleanup efforts in addition to dozens of aircraft, remotely operated vehicles, and multiple mobile offshore drilling units.
- More than 1.73 million feet of containment boom and 730,000 feet of sorbent boom have been deployed to contain the spill and approximately 275,000 feet of containment boom and 1.25 million feet of sorbent boom are available.
- Approximately 10.2 million gallons of an oil-water mix have been recovered.
- Approximately 785,000 gallons of total dispersant have been deployed 685,000 on the surface and 100,000 subsea. More than 340,000 gallons are available.
- 17 staging areas are in place and ready to protect sensitive shorelines, including: Dauphin Island, Ala., Orange Beach, Ala., Theodore, Ala., Panama City, Fla., Pensacola, Fla., Port St. Joe, Fla., St. Marks, Fla., Amelia, La., Cocodrie, La., Grand Isle, La., Shell Beach, La., Slidell, La., St. Mary, La.; Venice, La., Biloxi, Miss., Pascagoula, Miss., and Pass Christian, Miss.

SATURDAY, MAY 22

The President Signs an Executive Order Establishing Bipartisan Commission

President Obama announced that he has signed an executive order establishing the bipartisan National Commission on the BP Deepwater Horizon Oil Spill and Offshore Drilling with former two-term Florida Governor and former Senator Bob Graham and former Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency William K. Reilly serving as co-chairs.

The bipartisan National Commission on the BP Deepwater Horizon Oil Spill and Offshore Drilling is tasked with providing recommendations on how we can prevent and mitigate the impact of any future spills that result from offshore drilling.

The commission will be focused on the necessary environmental and safety precautions we must build into our regulatory framework in order to ensure an accident like this never happens again, taking into account the other investigations concerning the causes of the spill.

The commission will have bipartisan co-chairs with a total membership of seven people. Membership will include broad and diverse representation of individuals with relevant expertise. No sitting government employees or elected officials will sit on the commission.

The Commission's work will be transparent and subject to the Federal Advisory Committee Act. The Commission will issue a report within six months of having been convened.

EPA Releases BP's Response to Dispersants Directive

The EPA released BP's response to its directive on dispersants, which required BP to evaluate available, pre-approved dispersants for toxicity and effectiveness and report back to EPA within 24 hours. EPA will continue to work over the next 48 hours to ensure

BP is complying with the directive. BP's response to EPA's directive, as well as the directive itself, can be found here.

BP and several of the dispersant manufacturers have claimed some sections of BP's response contain confidential business information (CBI). By law, CBI cannot be immediately made public except with the company's permission. EPA challenged these companies to make more information public and, as a result, several portions of the letter can now be made public. EPA is currently evaluating all legal options to ensure that the remaining redacted information is released to the public. EPA continues to strongly urge these companies to voluntarily make this information public so Americans can get a full picture of the potential environmental impact of these alternative dispersants.

Preparation Continues for BP's Top Kill Attempt to Stop Leaking Oil

BP and federal scientists and engineers continue to prepare for the top kill operation, which is tentatively scheduled for Tuesday, May 25. From the command centers in Robert, La., and Houston, Texas, federal officials continue to review BP's various procedures and contingencies for the top kill. Scientists from Sandia, Los Alamos and Livermore National Laboratories are examining the risks associate, and BP continues to evaluate options for lower toxicity dispersant and alternative supply chains.

Wildlife Rescue Flights Continue

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service conducted four flights today for recon/wildlife rescue missions and bird surveys.

Officials Plan and Prepare for Any Potential Impacts to Tribal Lands

DOI's Bureau of Indian Affairs continues to work with tribes along the Gulf Coast to determine potentially impacted tribal lands, and conduct pre-planning, including coordinated efforts with local emergency agencies, in preparation for any future impact.

By the Numbers to Date:

- Personnel were quickly deployed and approximately 24,900 are currently responding to protect the shoreline and wildlife.
- More than 1,100 vessels are responding on site, including skimmers, tugs, barges, and recovery vessels to assist in containment and cleanup efforts in addition to dozens of aircraft, remotely operated vehicles, and multiple mobile offshore drilling units.

- More than 1.52 million feet of containment boom and 560,000 feet of sorbent boom have been deployed to contain the spill and approximately 310,000 feet of containment boom and 1.27 million feet of sorbent boom are available.
- Approximately 9.7 million gallons of an oil-water mix have been recovered.
- Approximately 715,000 gallons of total dispersant have been deployed 630,000 on the surface and 85,000 sub-sea. More than 375,000 gallons are available.
- 17 staging areas are in place and ready to protect sensitive shorelines, including: Dauphin Island, Ala., Orange Beach, Ala., Theodore, Ala., Panama City, Fla., Pensacola, Fla., Port St. Joe, Fla., St. Marks, Fla., Amelia, La., Cocodrie, La., Grand Isle, La., Shell Beach, La., Slidell, La., St. Mary, La.; Venice, La., Biloxi, Miss., Pascagoula, Miss., and Pass Christian, Miss.

FRIDAY, MAY 21

Team Works to Provide Scientifically Validated Flow Rate Information

The National Incident Command's Flow Rate Technical Group (FRTG) is coordinating efforts across the federal government to support the response and inform the public by providing scientifically validated information about the amount of oil flowing from BP's leaking oil well while ensuring the vital efforts to cap the leak are not impeded.

The administration-wide response efforts have always been geared toward the possibility of a catastrophic event, and our deployment of resources and our tactics have been based on such a worst case scenario not an inexact number. With the source of the oil 5,000 feet under the ocean's surface, it has been extremely difficult to estimate oil flow rate in an environment that prohibits human access.

The FRTG reflects the federal government's clear understanding of the value of determining an oil flow rate, both in regards to the continued response and recovery, as well as the important role this information may play in the final investigation of the failure of the blowout preventer and the resulting spill. The group expects to have an initial flow assessment completed by early next week.

Secretary Chu Postpones Trip to China to Focus on Scientific Oil Spill Response

Energy Secretary Steven Chu is postponing a trip to China, scheduled for next week, at the request of President Obama, in order to stay in the country to continue his work on response efforts to the BP oil spill. Secretary Chu was originally scheduled to visit Beijing and Shanghai and discuss further progress on bilateral clean energy cooperation.

Secretary Chu has been working with the Department of Energy's National Laboratories and other top scientists to help BP determine how to stop the leak, and exploring ideas about the most effective scientific and engineering approaches to the problem.

The Department of Energy has also been offering its resources and technical assistance to the Flow Rate Technical Group.

Federal Officials Meet with BP to Discuss Top Kill Method

Federal officials and scientists have been working with BP engineers on the review of the various operations, procedures and contingencies that will be used during the top kill attempt. Federal officials met with the BP Top Kill Management Team to discuss critical decision processes regarding carrying out the top kill. The current schedule for the top kill is May 23-25, and the total operation could take several days to complete.

Plans Are Made for Long-Term National Parks Recovery Process

National Parks Service Science Advisor Dr. Gary Machlis will lead an Interior Department Science Team to work on long-term recovery strategies. NPS is currently identifying and developing multi-disciplinary position descriptions and working with human resources to initiate personnel actions. Most of the long-term recovery positions will be "Emergency Hires". DOI has deployed more than 630 personnel to focus on the BP Oil Spill response.

By the Numbers to Date:

- Personnel were quickly deployed and approximately 24,000 are currently responding to protect the shoreline and wildlife.
- More than 1,100 vessels are responding on site, including skimmers, tugs, barges, and recovery vessels to assist in containment and cleanup efforts in addition to dozens of aircraft, remotely operated vehicles, and multiple mobile offshore drilling units.
- More than 1.46 million feet of containment boom and 560,000 feet of sorbent boom have been deployed to contain the spill and approximately 370,000 feet of containment boom and 1.28 million feet of sorbent boom are available.
- More than 8.9 million gallons of an oil-water mix have been recovered.
- Approximately 670,000 gallons of total dispersant have been deployed 600,000 on the surface and 70,000 subsea. More than 340,000 gallons are available.
- 17 staging areas are in place and ready to protect sensitive shorelines, including: Dauphin Island, Ala., Orange Beach, Ala., Theodore, Ala., Panama City, Fla., Pensacola, Fla., Port St. Joe, Fla., St. Marks, Fla., Amelia, La., Cocodrie, La., Grand Isle, La., Shell Beach, La., Slidell, La., St. Mary, La.; Venice, La., Biloxi, Miss., Pascagoula, Miss., and Pass Christian, Miss.

THURSDAY, MAY 20

Admiral Allen Will Stay On as National Incident Commander

Secretary Napolitano today announced that U.S. Coast Guard Admiral Thad Allen has agreed to remain in his current role as National Incident Commander for the administration's continued, coordinated response to the Deepwater BP Oil Spill after stepping down from his post as Coast Guard Commandant later this month as planned enabling him to focus solely on managing the unprecedented response effort. As planned and previously announced, Admiral Robert J. Papp, Jr., will relieve Admiral Allen as Commandant later this month.

Secretary Napolitano and Administrator Jackson Demand Transparency from BP

Secretary Napolitano and EPA Administrator Jackson sent a letter to BP CEO Tony Hayward stressing their expectation that BP to conduct all actions in a transparent manner, with all data and information related to the spill readily available to the U.S. government and the American people. The letter stated that BP must promptly provide to the United States Government and the public all data and information regarding the Deepwater Horizon oil spill and update it daily.

EPA Begins Posting Results from Monitoring of BP's Subsea Dispersant Use

EPA last night began posting results from the ongoing monitoring of BP's use of underwater dispersants in the Gulf of Mexico at <http://www.epa.gov/bpspill>. EPA received this data from BP last night and posted it within hours. Dispersants are a chemical used to break up oil into small droplets so that they are more easily degraded.

This is part of EPA's continued commitment to make air, water, sediment and dispersant monitoring data available to the public as quickly as possible and to ensure the citizens of the Gulf region have access to all relevant public and environmental health information relating to the BP oil spill.

Directive Issued Requiring BP to Identify and Use Less Toxic, More Effective Dispersant

EPA issued a directive requiring BP to identify and use a less toxic and more effective dispersant from the list of EPA authorized dispersants. Dispersants are a chemical used to break up oil into small droplets so that they are more easily degraded.

The directive requires BP to identify a less toxic alternative to be used both on the surface and under the water at the source of the oil leak within 24 hours and to begin using the less toxic dispersant within 72 hours of submitting the alternative. If BP is unable to identify available alternative dispersant products, BP must provide the Coast Guard and EPA with a detailed description of the alternative dispersants investigated, and the reason they believe those products did not meet the required standards. EPA's directive to BP can be found here: <http://www.epa.gov/bpspill/dispersants.html>

Economic Cost and Societal Impact Modeling Continues

The Department of Energy's national laboratories are working with DHS National Infrastructure Simulation and Analysis Center (NISAC), which is modeling the economic costs and societal impact of the oil spill on energy and other industries in the Gulf and along the coast to support the response efforts of the National Incident Commander and the Unified Area Command. NISAC is a modeling, simulation, and analysis center within DHS that leverages national expertise to address infrastructure protection.

Riser Insertion Tube Tool Continues to Divert Leaking Oil

BP's riser insertion tube tool continues to capture a varying rate of leaking oil, bringing it to the surface for storage and disposal.

Progress Continues in Drilling Relief Wells

The Development Driller III, continues to drill the first relief well at approximately 30 feet per hour. The Development Driller II is being prepared to receive the blowout preventer, following which it will begin drilling the second relief well.

Natural Resource Conservation Service Continues to Build Response

USDA's Natural Resources Conservation Service has deployed personnel and multiple vessels to assist the Louisiana Department of Fisheries and Wildlife in monitoring oil making landfall in Terrebonne Bay and Breton Sound areas in Louisiana, and continues to assist the Louisiana National Guard with technical engineering recommendations for stabilizing beach and headland areas where sand and earthen material is being placed to plug openings to prevent the oil from entering the wetlands.

Individual and Small Business Support Services Coordination Team Begins Work

An interagency team is developing and overseeing a unified approach for coordinating supportive services to individuals and small businesses impacted by the BP oil spill. In support of the National Incident Command, the Interagency Integrated Services Team is building a coordination plan based on the operational concept of "no wrong door" to ensure individuals, families, and small business can easily access the claims process, benefits, and other services.

This team will work closely among all levels of government to ensure that BP, as a responsible party, meets its obligations and that impacted individuals are made whole. Leadership from the interagency team briefed Governors from Gulf Coast states and identified next steps for a coordinated effort to ensure all claims are properly addressed.

As part of these efforts, a central resource for information on how to obtain assistance for dealing with the impacts of the current oil spill should visit www.disasterassistance.gov.

Navy Ocean Survey Vessels Assist in Boom Deployment and Skimming

Three Navy ocean survey vessels the Wes Bordelon, the John Coghill and the Vanguard continue to support boom deployment and skimming activities along the Gulf Coast.

By the Numbers to Date:

- Personnel were quickly deployed and more than 24,000 are currently responding to protect the shoreline and wildlife.
- More than 1,000 vessels are responding on site, including skimmers, tugs, barges, and recovery vessels to assist in containment and cleanup efforts in addition to dozens of aircraft, remotely operated vehicles, and multiple mobile offshore drilling units.
- More than 1.43 million feet of containment boom and 560,000 feet of sorbent boom have been deployed to contain the spill and approximately 370,000 feet of containment boom and 1.28 million feet of sorbent boom are available.
- Approximately 8.3 million gallons of an oil-water mix have been recovered.
- Approximately 655,000 gallons of total dispersant have been deployed 600,000 on the surface and 55,000 subsea. More than 340,000 gallons are available.
- 17 staging areas are in place and ready to protect sensitive shorelines, including: Dauphin Island, Ala., Orange Beach, Ala., Theodore, Ala., Panama City, Fla., Pensacola, Fla., Port St. Joe, Fla., St. Marks, Fla., Amelia, La., Cocodrie, La., Grand Isle, La., Shell Beach, La., Slidell, La., St. Mary, La.; Venice, La., Biloxi, Miss., Pascagoula, Miss., and Pass Christian, Miss.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 19

Secretary Salazar Divides MMS s Three Conflicting Missions; Establishes Independent Agency to Police Offshore Energy Operations

Secretary of the Interior Ken Salazar today signed a Secretarial Order that will lead to the fundamental restructuring of the Minerals Management Service and the division of its three conflicting missions into separate entities with independent missions to strengthen oversight of offshore energy operations, improve the structure for revenue and royalty collections on behalf of the American people, and help the country build a clean energy future.

Top Scientists Engaging Closely with BP s Efforts to Cap the Leak

As a responsible party, BP is charged with capping their leaking oil well. However, the U.S. government is taking an active role to ensure that BP's approach is as strong and as innovative as possible. The Department of Energy has engaged some of the world's top scientific and engineering minds from Sandia, Los Alamos and Livermore Labs to lend their expertise to BP's efforts to cap the well and permanently stop the leak.

These government scientists are reviewing every plan on the table, validating those that are moving forward and providing additional expertise and input on new tactics.

Observations Indicate a Small Portion of Light Oil Sheen Has Entered the Loop Current

NOAA's latest observations indicate that a small portion of the oil has reached the Loop Current in the form of light to very light sheens. (In the time it would take for oil to travel to the vicinity of the Florida Straits, any oil would be highly weathered and both the natural process of evaporation and the application of chemical dispersants would reduce the oil volume significantly. However, the oil may get caught in a clockwise eddy in the middle of the gulf, and not be carried to the Florida Straits at all. (The Coast Guard has confirmed that the tar balls collected yesterday in the Florida Keys did not originate with the BP oil spill.

1,000s of Oil Spill Cleanup Employee Safety Guides Distributed

The U.S. Department of Labor's Occupational Safety and Health Administration is distributing thousands of safety guides and fact sheets to employees involved with the oil spill cleanup along the Gulf Coast.

The materials supplement OSHA-required training workers must receive before they can be hired to engage in the cleanup. In addition to English, the safety guides and fact sheets initially will be printed in Spanish and Vietnamese in recognition of the diverse population inhabiting the Gulf Coast region. They will be made available by BP's education contractor, PEC, and OSHA officials at cleanup staging areas.

Secretary of Labor Hilda L. Solis is urging BP to hire local workers displaced by the oil spill, including fishermen and workers from the hospitality industry, many of whom have limited English proficiency.

Monitoring of Oil Flowing from Insertion Tube Continues

MMS is working with the BP engineers to monitor the flow of liquid from the riser insertion tube tool, or RITT, as it is brought onto the vessel Enterprise for containment and storage. They continue to inject methanol to prevent build up of hydrates, and additional methanol is being delivered to the Enterprise. Samples of the produced oil are being sent to Louisiana State University (LSU) for analysis.

Successful Burn Conducted

Favorable weather conditions allowed responders to conduct a successful controlled burn operation for the third consecutive day. As part of a coordinated response that combines tactics deployed above water, below water, offshore, and close to coastal areas, controlled burns efficiently remove oil from the open water in an effort to protect shoreline and wildlife.

By the Numbers to Date:

Personnel were quickly deployed and approximately 20,000 are currently responding to protect the shoreline and wildlife.

More than 970 vessels are responding on site, including skimmers, tugs, barges, and recovery vessels to assist in containment and cleanup efforts in addition to dozens of aircraft, remotely operated vehicles, and multiple mobile offshore drilling units.

More than 1.38 million feet of containment boom and 530,000 feet of sorbent boom have been deployed to contain the spill and approximately 380,000 feet of containment boom and 845,000 feet of sorbent boom are available.

Approximately 7.9 million gallons of an oil-water mix have been recovered.

Approximately 655,000 gallons of total dispersant have been deployed 600,000 on the surface and 55,000 subsea. More than 310,000 gallons are available.

17 staging areas are in place and ready to protect sensitive shorelines, including: Dauphin Island, Ala., Orange Beach, Ala., Theodore, Ala., Panama City, Fla., Pensacola, Fla., Port St. Joe, Fla., St. Marks, Fla., Amelia, La., Cocodrie, La., Grand Isle, La., Shell Beach, La., Slidell, La., St. Mary, La.; Venice, La., Biloxi, Miss., Pascagoula, Miss., and Pass Christian, Miss.

TUESDAY, MAY 18

The President Urges Congress to Act on Legislation to Enhance Response

President Obama again urged Congress to act quickly on a legislative package that will enable the Deepwater BP Oil Spill response to continue expeditiously, speed assistance to people affected by this spill, and strengthen and update the oil spill liability system to better address catastrophic events.

The President issued the following statement: I am disappointed that an effort to ensure that oil companies pay fully for disasters they cause has stalled in the United States Senate on a partisan basis. This maneuver threatens to leave taxpayers, rather than the oil companies, on the hook for future disasters like the BP oil spill. I urge the Senate Republicans to stop playing special interest politics and join in a bipartisan effort to protect taxpayers and demand accountability from the oil companies.

Small Amounts of Oil Reach Proximity of Loop Current

Satellite imagery indicates that the main bulk of the oil is dozens of miles away from the Loop Current, but that a tendril of light oil has been transported within close proximity. NOAA is conducting ongoing aerial observations to determine with certainty whether or not the oil has actually entered the Loop Current, and continues engage experts within and outside government to develop long-term oil movement forecasts.

Both the location of the Loop Current and the oil slick are dynamic moving around from day to day. The proximity of the tendril of light oil to the Loop Current indicates that oil is increasingly likely to become entrained. In the time it would take for oil to travel to the vicinity of the Loop Current, any oil would be highly weathered and the natural processes of evaporation and dispersion would reduce the oil volume significantly. The oil would also be significantly diminished by ongoing chemical dispersant application.

Fishing Restrictions Extended, Balancing Economic and Public Health Concerns

Out of an abundance of caution, NOAA has extended the boundaries of the closed fishing area in the Gulf of Mexico into the northern portion of the Loop Current as a precautionary measure to ensure that seafood from the Gulf will remain safe for consumers. Though the latest analysis shows that the bulk of the oil remains dozens of miles from the Loop Current, the new boundaries address the possibility that a tendril of light oil has entered or will enter it.

The closed area now represents 45,728 square miles, which is slightly less than 19 percent of Gulf of Mexico federal waters. This leaves more than 81 percent of Gulf federal waters or nearly 195,000 square miles still available for fishing. Details can be found at:

<http://sero.nmfs.noaa.gov/>.

The newly closed area is more than 150 miles from the nearest port and primarily in deep water used by pelagic long-line fisheries that target highly migratory species, such as tuna and swordfish. Coastal fisheries, such as grouper, snapper and shrimp, will not be affected by the expansion of the closed area.

SBA Continues to Make Low-Interest Loans Available to Affected Small Businesses

SBA Administrator Karen Mills has made available low-interest economic injury assistance loans and deferring the first payment for 12 months for small businesses suffering financial losses following the oil spill in coastal regions of Alabama, Florida, Louisiana and Mississippi. (While small businesses are encouraged to file claims with BP, these loans can provide the critical temporary assistance needed to overcome the loss of revenue they are currently experiencing. Additionally, the agency is offering deferral opportunities for small businesses in the affected areas on existing SBA disaster loans, as well as encouraging private lenders who have borrowers in the affected areas with existing SBA-guaranteed loans to consider deferrals. Loan applications can also be made via SBA's secure web application at:

www.sba.gov or over the phone at: 1 (800) 659-2955.

NASA Continues to Provide Satellite Imagery to Monitor the Oil Slick

NASA scientists and research partners are working closely to provide satellite data to those who need it in the wake of the disaster. One such scientist is Sonia Gallegos, of the Naval Research Laboratory (NRL), who recently spent several days on a boat seeing the effects of the oil spill first hand. This project, which proposes to use NASA's active and passive remote sensing capabilities to monitor oil slicks, was funded by NASA six months ago and got a serious jump start three weeks ago when the Deepwater Horizon BP oil rig caught fire and sunk.

This project is part of a larger effort by NASA's Applied Sciences Program to address coastal management issues in the Gulf of Mexico. NASA's Gulf of Mexico Initiative began in response to the impact of hurricanes Katrina, Dennis, Rita and Wilma in 2005 and overall is intended to enhance the ecological and economic health of the Gulf. NASA is working to achieve these goals through use of expertise in remote sensing, oceanography, coastal processes, signal processing and mathematical modeling.

Controlled Burn Conducted

Favorable weather conditions allowed responders to conduct a successful controlled burn operation for the second consecutive day. As part of a coordinated response that combines tactics deployed above water, below water, offshore, and close to coastal areas, controlled burns efficiently remove oil from the open water in an effort to protect shoreline and wildlife.

Aircraft Conduct Aerial Dispersant Missions

Modular Aerial Spray System (MASS) aircraft flew multiple missions dispensing the same dispersant chemical being used by BP and the federal responders. These systems are capable of covering up to 250 acres per flight.

Coastal Waters Assessment Team Completes Sampling

NOAA's Mussel Watch replacement team completed sampling throughout coastal Louisiana, Mississippi, Alabama and Florida, and is now focused on collecting oysters, sediments and water at eight remaining sites in Texas. In total, the Mussel Watch pre-oiling sample expedition will have visited 60 sites in the northeastern Gulf region in partnership with NOAA's National Marine Fisheries Service, the Louisiana Department of Fish & Wildlife, Louisiana State University, and the MOTE Marine Laboratory.

By the Numbers to Date:

- Personnel were quickly deployed and more than 20,000 are currently responding to protect the shoreline and wildlife.
- More than 950 vessels are responding on site, including skimmers, tugs, barges, and recovery vessels to assist in containment and cleanup efforts in addition to dozens of aircraft, remotely operated vehicles, and multiple mobile offshore drilling units.
- More than 1.36 million feet of containment boom and 480,000 feet of sorbent boom have been deployed to contain the spill and approximately 350,000 feet of containment boom and 800,000 feet of sorbent boom are available.
- Approximately 7.6 million gallons of an oil-water mix have been recovered.
- Approximately 640,000 gallons of total dispersant have been deployed 590,000 on the surface and 53,000 subsea. More than 300,000 gallons are available.
- 17 staging areas are in place and ready to protect sensitive shorelines, including: Dauphin Island, Ala., Orange Beach, Ala., Theodore, Ala., Panama City, Fla., Pensacola, Fla., Port St. Joe, Fla., St. Marks, Fla., Amelia, La., Cocodrie, La., Grand Isle, La., Shell Beach, La., Slidell, La., St. Mary, La.; Venice, La., Biloxi, Miss., Pascagoula, Miss., and Pass Christian, Miss.

MONDAY, MAY 17

SBA Provides Direct Outreach to Affected Small Business Owners

The Small Business Administration has deployed staff to Louisiana, Mississippi, Alabama and Florida to meet individually with business owners, answer questions about the Economic Injury Disaster Loan program, issue loan applications, and provide help in completing the loan forms via business outreach centers.

SBA Administrator Karen Mills has made available low-interest economic injury assistance loans and deferring the first payment for 12 months for small businesses suffering financial losses following the oil spill in coastal regions of Alabama, Florida, Louisiana and Mississippi.

While small businesses are encouraged to file claims with BP, these loans can provide the critical temporary assistance needed to overcome the loss of revenue they are currently experiencing. Additionally, the agency is offering deferral opportunities for small businesses in the affected areas on existing SBA disaster loans, as well as encouraging private lenders who have borrowers in the affected areas with existing SBA-guaranteed loans to consider deferrals

Loan applications can also be made via SBA's secure web application at www.sba.gov or over the phone at (800) 659-2955.

Gulf Coast Elected Officials Tour Response Command Posts

Florida Governor Charlie Crist and U.S. Representative Bill Young visited the St. Petersburg Incident Command Post, and Alabama Governor Bob Riley and U.S. Congressman Kendrick

Meek visited the Mobile, Ala., Incident Command Post to meet with local, state and federal officials involved in the ongoing response to the BP oil spill.

Officials Continue Direct Outreach to Gulf Coast Governors

The federal government continues to engage closely with Gulf Coast Governors, and USCG Admirals are providing regular response updates via conference call directly to the Governors and their staffs.

MMS Oversight of BP Relief Well Drilling Continues

MMS reports that the Development Driller III, which is drilling the first relief well, installed the blowout preventer on the wellhead and is undergoing functional tests. The second relief well has progressed hundreds of feet into the seafloor after spudding on the morning of May 17. Spudding indicates the point in time when the drill penetrates the sea floor.

NOAA Coordinates Underwater Fish and Habitat Surveys

NOAA's Flower Garden Banks National Marine Sanctuary is teaming up with NOAA's National Centers for Coastal Ocean Science, the Harbor Branch Oceanographic Institution and the University of North Carolina Wilmington to conduct remotely operated underwater vehicle surveys of the fish and deep water habitats of East and West Flower Garden Banks vital marine sanctuaries in the Gulf of Mexico.

Fishing Restrictions Expanded; Majority of Federal Waters Remain Open

NOAA modified the Gulf of Mexico commercial and recreational fishing closure area. It now measures 24,241 square miles approximately 10 percent of the Gulf of Mexico exclusive economic zone. The majority of federal waters in the Gulf of Mexico are open to commercial and recreational fishing.

Seafood Safety Analysis Continues

NOAA Fisheries is collecting baseline samples for seafood safety analyses on the west side of the Mississippi river. Two locations were sampled and the research vessel is now moving west of the oil spill in Louisiana waters. NOAA Fisheries also contracted a fishing vessel that left Saturday morning to sample the easternmost closed fishing zone using bottom trawl gear.

By the Numbers to Date:

- Personnel were quickly deployed and more than 17,000 are currently responding to protect the shoreline and wildlife.
- More than 750 vessels are responding on site, including skimmers, tugs, barges, and recovery vessels to assist in containment and cleanup efforts in addition to dozens of aircraft, remotely operated vehicles, and multiple mobile offshore drilling units.

- More than 1.3 million feet of containment boom and 400,000 feet of sorbent boom have been deployed to contain the spill and approximately 360,000 feet of containment boom and 750,000 feet of sorbent boom are available.
- Approximately 6.6 million gallons of an oil-water mix have been recovered.
- Approximately 625,000 gallons of total dispersant have been deployed 580,000 on the surface and 45,000 subsea. More than 390,000 gallons are available.
- 17 staging areas are in place and ready to protect sensitive shorelines, including: Dauphin Island, Ala., Orange Beach, Ala., Theodore, Ala., Panama City, Fla., Pensacola, Fla., Port St. Joe, Fla., St. Marks, Fla., Amelia, La., Cocodrie, La., Grand Isle, La., Shell Beach, La., Slidell, La., St. Mary, La.; Venice, La., Biloxi, Miss., Pascagoula, Miss., and Pass Christian, Miss.

SUNDAY, MAY 16

Riser Insertion Tube Leak Mitigation Tactic is Tested

The Unified Area Command reports that overnight the Riser Insertion Tube Tool was successfully tested and inserted into the leaking riser, capturing some amounts of oil and gas. The oil was stored on board the Discoverer Enterprise drill ship 5,000 feet above on the water's surface, and natural gas was burned through a flare system on board the ship. (The test was halted temporarily when the tube was dislodged, but technicians have fully inspected the system and have re-inserted the tool. While not collecting all of the leaking oil, this tool is an important step in reducing the amount of oil being released into Gulf waters.

Secretary Salazar and Secretary Napolitano issued a joint statement on these efforts: Today, BP attempted another test to contain some of the oil leaking from the riser. This technique is not a solution to the problem, and it is not yet clear how successful it may be. We are closely monitoring BP's test with the hope that it will contain some of the oil, but at the same time, federal scientists are continuing to provide oversight and expertise to BP as they move forward with other strategies to contain the spill and stop the flow of oil. We will not rest until BP permanently seals the wellhead, the spill is cleaned up, and the communities and natural resources of the Gulf Coast are restored and made whole.

Progress Made in Relief Well Drilling Preparations

MMS reports the Development Driller III, which will drill the first relief well, has finished running blowout preventer (BOP) stack and riser and is currently latching the BOP to the wellhead for the first relief well. The Development Driller II, which will drill the second relief well, is on location and is making preparations for initiating the drilling process and performing BOP maintenance.

Wildlife Surveillance and Recovery Teams Search for Impacted Wildlife

Seven Fish and Wildlife Service surveillance and recovery teams were deployed from the Mobile, Ala., Command Center four via land with two support crews; two via sea on 2 separate vessels; and one via helicopter over-flight.

Two helicopters conducted flights at low levels to spot wildlife along the Biloxi Marsh, Breton Sound, SW Pass and Pas-A-Loutre. One helicopter conducted an early morning IR Thermal Imagery pilot study flight with Department of Defense scientists. The second helicopter continued its flights with DOI Assistant Secretary of Fish and Wildlife and Parks Tom Strickland over New Orleans area, Houma Command Center and SE Louisiana Refuge Complex in Lacombe, La., to observe potentially impacted wildlife.

By the Numbers to Date:

- Personnel were quickly deployed and more than 19,000 are currently responding to protect the shoreline and wildlife.
- More than 650 vessels are responding on site, including skimmers, tugs, barges, and recovery vessels to assist in containment and cleanup efforts in addition to dozens of aircraft, remotely operated vehicles, and multiple mobile offshore drilling units.
- More than 1.25 million feet of containment boom and 440,000 feet of sorbent boom have been deployed to contain the spill and approximately 285,000 feet of containment boom and 900,000 feet of sorbent boom are available.
- Approximately 6.3 million gallons of an oil-water mix have been recovered.
- Approximately 600,000 gallons of dispersant have been deployed. More than 280,000 gallons are available.
- 17 staging areas are in place and ready to protect sensitive shorelines, including: Dauphin Island, Ala., Orange Beach, Ala., Theodore, Ala., Panama City, Fla., Pensacola, Fla., Port St. Joe, Fla., St. Marks, Fla., Amelia, La., Cocodrie, La., Grand Isle, La., Shell Beach, La., Slidell, La., St. Mary, La.; Venice, La., Biloxi, Miss., Pascagoula, Miss., and Pass Christian, Miss.

SATURDAY, MAY 15

Secretaries Napolitano and Salazar Seek Clarification of BP s Redress Intentions

Secretary Napolitano and Secretary Salazar sent a letter to BP CEO Tony Hayward publicly holding BP s feet to fire. As the President said yesterday, this administration is committed to ensuring that those affected are compensated. The Secretaries reiterated that as a responsible party for this event, BP is accountable to the American public for the full clean up of this spill and all the economic loss caused by the spill and related events.

Coast Guard and EPA Approve Use of Dispersant Subsea

The U.S. Coast Guard and U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) announced they have authorized BP to use dispersants underwater, at the source of the Deepwater Horizon leak. Oil

spill dispersants are chemicals that attempt to break down the oil into small drops and prevent it from reaching the surface or the U.S. shoreline. Dispersants are generally less harmful than the highly toxic oil leaking from the source and biodegrade in a much shorter time span. (The use of the dispersant at the source of the leak represents a novel approach to addressing the significant environmental threat posed by the spill. Preliminary testing results indicate that subsea use of the dispersant is effective at reducing the amount of oil from reaching the surface and can do so with the use of less dispersant than is needed when the oil does reach the surface. This is an important step to reduce the potential for damage from oil reaching fragile wetlands and coastal areas.

This course of action was decided upon with thorough evaluation and consideration of many factors as well as consultation with stakeholders. While BP pursues the use of subsea dispersants, the federal government will require regular analysis of its effectiveness and impact on the environment, water and air quality, and human health through a rigorous monitoring program. EPA's directive to BP, including the monitoring plan the company must adhere to in order to ensure the protection of the environment and public health, is publicly available at www.epa.gov/bpspill/dispersants.

Secretary Salazar Visits Wildlife Rehabilitations Center

Secretary Salazar visited Fort Jackson Wildlife Rehabilitation Center in Buras, La., today to examine efforts being undertaken by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and its partners to protect and rehabilitate wildlife affected by the BP oil spill. Salazar also visited the Unified Area Command facility in Robert, La., for a briefing.

Fishing Restrictions Extended; More Than 92 Percent Remains Open

NOAA Fisheries revised the federal fishery closure boundaries late on May 14. The new closure will cover is a precautionary measure to ensure public safety and assure consumer confidence of Gulf of Mexico seafood. These changes will leave more than 92 percent of the Gulf's federal waters open for fishing, and supporting productive fisheries and tourism. More details can be found here.

Staging Area Total Grows to 17

17 staging areas are in place and ready to protect sensitive shorelines, including: Dauphin Island, Ala., Orange Beach, Ala., Theodore, Ala., Panama City, Fla., Pensacola, Fla., Port St. Joe, Fla., St. Marks, Fla., Amelia, La., Cocodrie, La., Grand Isle, La., Shell Beach, La., Slidell, La., St. Mary, La.; Venice, La., Biloxi, Miss., Pascagoula, Miss., and Pass Christian, Miss.

Progress Made in Relief Well Drilling Preparations

The Development Driller III, which will dig the first relief well, is lowering the blowout preventer stack and riser. The report depth was nearly 3,000 feet as of 7 p.m. EDT on Friday, May 14. After initial review by MMS, BP revised and resubmitted the Application for Permit to

Drill the second relief well, which will be undertaken by the Development Driller II which is on location and making preparations for initiating the drilling process.

Wildlife Hotline Taking Calls

The Wildlife Hotline has received a total of 17 calls for birds, fish, marine mammals, and reptiles which have not been confirmed. The Wildlife Rehabilitation Centers in Mississippi, Alabama, and Florida have received wildlife and have been conducting to treatment and rehabilitation.

Water Contamination Devices Installed in Everglades

A National Park Service crew installed three Semi-Permeable Membrane Devices in the Gulf Coast District of Everglades National Park to detect contamination in the water.

Mussel Watch Team is Dispatched

A NOAA Mussel Watch team has been sent to the Gulf to collect mussel samples, including oyster tissue, sediments, and water from Atchafalaya Bay, La., west to the Brazos River, Texas. The team has partnered with the Louisiana Department of Fish and Game to collect remaining sites in Louisiana, and will then work with the NMFS Galveston Laboratory to collect sites along the Texas coast. Mussel Watch is the longest continuous contaminant monitoring program in U.S. coastal waters.

NOAA Research Ship Re-Deployed to Spill Response

The NOAA Ship Gordon Gunter, previously scheduled to conduct plankton research in the Gulf of Mexico, is now providing information for oil spill related research.

By the Numbers to Date:

- Personnel were quickly deployed and approximately 17,500 are currently responding to protect the shoreline and wildlife.
- More than 600 vessels are responding on site, including skimmers, tugs, barges, and recovery vessels to assist in containment and cleanup efforts in addition to dozens of aircraft, remotely operated vehicles, and multiple mobile offshore drilling units.
- More than 1.25 million feet of containment boom and 415,000 feet of sorbent boom have been deployed to contain the spill and approximately 270,000 feet of containment boom and 900,000 feet of sorbent boom are available.
- More than 6 million gallons of an oil-water mix have been recovered.
- Approximately 560,000 gallons of dispersant have been deployed. More than 260,000 gallons are available.
- 17 staging areas are in place and ready to protect sensitive shorelines, including: Dauphin Island, Ala., Orange Beach, Ala., Theodore, Ala., Panama City, Fla., Pensacola, Fla., Port St. Joe, Fla., St. Marks, Fla., Amelia, La., Cocodrie, La., Grand Isle, La., Shell Beach, La., Slidell, La., St. Mary, La.; Venice, La., Biloxi, Miss., Pascagoula, Miss., and Pass Christian, Miss.

FRIDAY, MAY 14

President Obama Holds Principals Meeting and Updates Public on Response

The President met with members of his Cabinet and other senior administration officials to determine next steps in the ongoing effort to stop the BP oil spill, contain its spread, and help affected communities. He also provided an update to the American people stressing the seriousness and urgency of the situation by stating that he will not be satisfied until the leak is stopped at the source, the oil in the Gulf is contained and cleaned up, and the people of the Gulf are able to go back to their lives and their livelihoods.

The President emphasized that the administration-wide mobilization and response efforts have always been geared toward the possibility of a catastrophic event, no matter how large the leak. He stressed that every available resource is being used to stop the oil from coming ashore. The President also asked for prompt action on the legislation sent to Congress that would provide additional resources to mitigate the damage caused by the spill, help with cleanup efforts, provide unemployment assistance and job training to folks whose jobs are affected by this crisis, and help with the region's economic recovery.

In addition, the President announced that there will now be a new examination of the environmental procedures for oil and gas exploration and development and reaffirmed his commitment to putting in place every necessary safeguard and protection to ensure that a tragedy like this does not happen again a responsibility shared by all parties involved, including the oil companies, the equipment manufacturers, and the federal government. He asserted that Gulf Coast residents deserve nothing less than for the federal government to do whatever is necessary to stop the spill, prevent further damage and ensure all who have already been harmed are compensated.

Review is Launched to Examine Environmental Procedures of Oil and Gas Exploration

The Council on Environmental Quality and the Department of the Interior announced a review of the National Environmental Policy Act procedures for the Minerals Management Service (MMS), the bureau in DOI that manages the nation's natural gas, oil and other mineral resources on the outer continental shelf (OCS). The review will examine the MMS NEPA procedures for OCS oil and gas exploration and development.

Coast Guard and BP Officials Brief Local Elected Officials

Officials from the U.S. Coast Guard and BP briefed local elected officials from Mobile County and Baldwin County, Ala., on shore cleanup plans.

Admiral Allen Meets with Local Responders

National Incident Commander and Coast Guard Commandant Admiral Thad Allen met with local responders, bouy tenders and Shoreline Cleanup Assessment (SCAT) Teams at staging areas in Dauphin Island, Ala. and Biloxi, Miss.

DOD Aircraft Conduct Dispersant Spray Missions

The Department of Defense s Modular Aerial Spray System (MASS) aircraft flew multiple missions dispensing the same dispersant chemicals being used by BP and federal responders. These systems are capable of covering up to 250 acres per flight, and flights are coordinated with the EPA and the State of Louisiana to ensure all environmental concerns are addressed.

DOD Supply Transport Completed

The transport of 150,000 feet of BP pollution response boom and approximately 250 short tons of Navy salvage equipment from Anchorage, Alaska, to the Gulf Coast was completed as the two remaining C-17 lift missions authorized by Secretary of Defense Robert Gates arrived in New Orleans.

Wildlife Surveillance and Recovery Teams Search for Impacted Wildlife

Eight joint surveillance and recovery teams were deployed via air, land, and sea. Two helicopter surveys were conducted. Typical marine birds (pipers, gulls, pelicans, herons, osprey) were observed in the normal clumped pattern along the shoreline. No evidence of oiled shoreline or oiled wildlife was observed by aerial operations

Preparations Continue for Drilling of Second Relief Well

MMS reports the Development Driller II arrived at a temporary location approximately five miles from the drill site to load materials required to position the vessel and begin drilling the well. MMS expects the vessel will move to the drill location within the next 24-48 hours and prepare to begin drilling.

Additional Funds are Authorized for Pollution Removal Efforts

MMS successfully amended its Pollution Removal Fund Authorization to cover response operations through May 17 with a maximum value of \$1 million. This agreement may be amended as the response situation warrants.

Boom Quality Flights Continue

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service personnel are working with BP to ensure overflights occur twice daily in the morning and evening to check that booming is deployed appropriately and any required maintenance is completed quickly.

Plans Begin for Potential Manatee Monitoring and Potential Rescue

The U.S. Geological Survey is working with the Florida Fish and Wildlife Research Institute on a plan for potential manatee rescues and monitoring (by aerial surveys), in coordination with NOAA and FWS in Florida, Alabama and Louisiana. Crews collected water and sediment samples at four sites in Louisiana and seven sites in the Florida panhandle.

Scientists Conduct Studies on Subsurface Oil

The NOAA Research-funded mission of the R/V Pelican is back at the spill site with six scientists from National Institute for Undersea Science and Technology and currently engaged in efforts to learn more about subsurface oil.

Teams Continue Shoreline Cleanup and Assessments

SCAT teams surveyed 19 miles of Dauphin Island, Ala., and the Jackson County shoreline with minimal tarball findings. An additional five teams were deployed to Bon Secour National Wildlife Refuge (Ala.) to recover tarballs.

THURSDAY, MAY 13

Secretary Salazar Announces First Steps in MMS Restructuring

As the federal government continues its relentless response to the Deepwater BP Oil Spill and investigates the cause of the explosion and oil spill, Secretary Salazar directed Assistant Secretary for Policy, Management and Budget Rhea Suh and Senior Advisor Chris Henderson to oversee a restructuring of the Minerals Management Service that will ensure the independence of the agency's inspections and enforcement mission.

Secretary Salazar also sent a letter to Congressional leaders asking for their ideas and input on his plan to reform the agency.

Officials Inspect Rig Preparing to Drill Relief Well

National Incident Commander and Coast Guard Commandant Admiral Thad Allen and Federal On-Scene Coordinator Rear Admiral Mary Landry inspected the Development Driller II, which is set to begin drilling the second relief well shortly to permanently cap the leaking well.

BP's Top Hat Containment System Approaches Completion

MMS reports that BP has approached completion of the top hat containment system, and expects an update from BP as early as tomorrow on its operational status.

Community Town Hall Held in Port Sulpher and Dulac, La.

Representatives from the Coast Guard, EPA, NOAA, the Department of the Interior, the Department of Labor, the Agency for Toxic Substance and Disease Registry and BP participated town hall meetings in Port Sulpher and Dulac, La., to provide an update on the response to the oil spill and continue the dialogue with members of the community, local business leaders and other organizations.

Shoreline Cleanup Teams Continue to Assess Impact

Shoreline Cleanup and Assessment Teams (SCAT) surveyed 19 miles of Dauphin Island, Ala., and the Jackson County shoreline with minimal tarball findings. An additional five teams were deployed to Bon Secour National Wildlife Refuge to recovery tarballs.

The Department of the Interior has deployed 568 total personnel to the affected area to assist in cleanup, wildlife protection and rehabilitation, and shoreline assessment efforts.

Unified Area Command Continues to Build Web and New Media Engagement

The Unified Area Command in Robert, La., continues to grow its public engagement via its website (www.deepwaterhorizonresponse.com), which has received more than 19 million hits since it was launched on April 23, as well as Facebook (18,277 users) and Twitter (3,707 followers). These resources contain information about response efforts, jobs, volunteer opportunities, impacts to wildlife and other important public information.

DOD Aircraft Conduct Dispersant Spray Missions

The Department of Defense s Modular Aerial Spray System (MASS) aircraft flew multiple missions dispensing the same dispersant chemicals being used by BP and federal responders. These systems are capable of covering up to 250 acres per flight, and flights are coordinated with the EPA and the State of Louisiana to ensure all environmental concerns are addressed. Since MASS flights began on May 1, a total of 47 missions have been flown and nearly 70,000 gallons of dispersant have been applied.

National Guard Support Continues to Build

1,304 National Guard personnel are currently supporting oil response 952 from the Louisiana National Guard are providing Command and Control and sandbagging support to St. Bernard and Plaquemines parishes, supporting marina operations and conducting HAZMAT training; 323 from the Alabama National Guard are deploying protective barriers around Dauphin Island and conducting sandbag and security operations; 25 from the Mississippi National Guard personnel are providing helicopter support and liaison officers to aid local officials with emergency response; and four from the Florida National Guard are performing liaison duties in support of the response effort to the Unified Command Center in Alabama and to its own emergency operations center in Tallahassee.

Five Oil Platforms Have Been Evacuated to Ensure Health and Safety

A total of five platforms have been evacuated in order to ensure the safety and health of rig workers. Estimated oil production shut-in is 2,300 barrels a day (0.14 percent of the Gulf's oil production) and approximately 1.2 million cubic feet of gas (0.02 percent of the Gulf's gas production).

Joint Bird Rescue Operations Are Dispatched

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Services and the National Parks Services dispatched a joint boat operation to Horn Island, Miss., to recover potentially oiled wildlife and transport them to a wildlife rehabilitation center for treatment. Treatment and rehabilitation operations are also ongoing on Chandeleur Island.

By the Numbers to Date:

- Personnel were quickly deployed and approximately 13,000 are currently responding to protect the shoreline and wildlife.
- More than 520 vessels are responding on site, including skimmers, tugs, barges, and recovery vessels to assist in containment and cleanup efforts in addition to dozens of aircraft, remotely operated vehicles, and multiple mobile offshore drilling units.
- More than 1.4 million feet of boom (regular and sorbent) have been deployed to contain the spill and approximately 1 million feet are available.
- Approximately 5 million gallons of an oil-water mix have been recovered.
- Approximately 476,000 gallons of dispersant have been deployed. More than 217,000 gallons are available.
- 14 staging areas have been set up to protect vital shoreline in all potentially affected Gulf Coast states (Biloxi, Miss., Pascagoula, Miss., Pensacola, Fla., Panama City, Fla., Dauphin Island, Ala., Grand Isle, La., Shell Beach, La., Slidell, La., Venice, La., Orange Beach, Ala., Theodore, Ala., Pass Christian, Miss., Amelia, La., and Cocodrie, La.).

WEDNESDAY, MAY 12

The President Introduces Legislation to Enhance the Response

As part of the administration's commitment to pursue full compensation for damages from BP and other responsible parties, the President sent a legislative package to Congress that will enable the Deepwater BP Oil Spill response to continue expeditiously, speed assistance to people affected by this spill, and strengthen and update the oil spill liability system to better address catastrophic events.

While the President's proposal will ask for additional funds in some cases, the federal government will not relent in pursuing full compensation for the expenses it has incurred, and for damage caused by the spill. The President has been clear from the beginning: his Administration will not rest until the leak is contained and cleaned up. To learn more about the President's proposed legislation, please visit this site: [Fact Sheet: Deepwater Horizon Oil Spill Legislative Package](#)

Top Officials Spearhead Efforts to Find Innovative Solutions to Plug Leak

At the request of the President, Secretary Salazar and Secretary Chu traveled to Houston to participate in meetings with DOE and national lab staff, industry officials and other engineers and scientists involved in finding solutions to cap the flow of oil and contain the spill. Secretary Salazar and Secretary Chu conferred at the BP Command Center in Houston with teams of federal and industry scientists and engineers who are using cutting-edge technological resources and innovative ideas to find solutions to containing the oil spill and protecting Gulf Coast communities.

Town Hall Meeting Held with Minority Business Owners

The Minority Business Development Agency and the Asian Chamber of Commerce of Louisiana hosted a town hall meeting with Vietnamese-American community-based organizations and local business development organizations; the Small Business Administration Disaster Relief Team; and others, to share information with fisherman, shrimpers and crew members and discuss their rights and privileges as minority business owners in regards to the oil spill.

Top Oceans and Atmosphere Official is Sworn In and Immediately Deployed to Gulf

Dr. Larry Robinson was sworn in this week as assistant secretary of commerce for oceans and atmosphere at NOAA, and has already arrived on the Gulf Coast. He conducted an over flight of the oil spill area and received operational updates at the Robert, La., Incident Command Center, NOAA's National Weather Service office in Slidell, La., and was briefed on NOAA's seafood inspection efforts in Mississippi.

Secretary Salazar Dispatches National Parks Superintendent

Secretary Salazar dispatched Superintendent of Everglades and Dry Tortugas National Parks Dan Kimball to the new Command Center in St. Petersburg, Fla., to help lead efforts to protect coastal communities and natural resources from the Deepwater Horizon oil spill.

Superintendent Kimball, a 24-year veteran of the National Park Service, is joining other members of Interior's senior leadership team dispatched over the last two weeks to command centers along the Gulf coast. Kimball is among the more than 410 DOI personnel who have been deployed as part of the oil spill response.

Community Town Hall Held in Ocean Springs, Miss.

Today, representatives from Coast Guard, EPA, NOAA, the Department of the Interior, the Department of Labor, the Agency for Toxic Substance and Disease Registry and BP participated in a town hall meeting in Ocean Springs, Mississippi to provide an update on the response to Deepwater Horizon BP oil spill and continue the dialogue with members of the community, local business leaders and other organizations.

Oversight Continues of BP s Containment Efforts

MMS reports that significant progress has been made by BP on the construction of the top hat containment system. The top hat has been placed on the seabed and the Drill Ship Enterprise is constructing and lowering the riser piping that will bring the captured oil to the surface. MMS also reports that the drill ship drilling the second relief well is en route to the drill site to begin drilling preparations. Gas and oil production from the Gulf of Mexico remains near normal with few adverse impacts to other operators from the oil spill

Bottlenose Dolphin Studies Conducted

NOAA s National Centers for Coastal Ocean Science and NOAA Fisheries Southeast Fisheries Science Center are conducting bottlenose dolphin studies in Mississippi and Louisiana. The samples will be used to evaluate baseline levels of exposure to oil and other environmental contaminants. The team will be working near Grand Isle, La., and in Mississippi Sound.

NOAA Continues to Provide State-of-the-Art Modeling

NOAA Air Resources Laboratory is providing its HYSPLIT forecast air dispersion model a model that projects the trajectory of airborne particles to support National Weather Service smoke forecasts from controlled burn operations.

NOAA s National Geophysical Data Center is providing coastal digital elevation models (DEMs) for the Gulf area. DEMs use coastal sea floor depth and land elevation data which then provides information about the likely movement of the ocean as it approaches the coastal area.

By the Numbers to Date:

- Personnel were quickly deployed and approximately 13,000 are currently responding to protect the shoreline and wildlife.
- More than 510 vessels are responding on site, including skimmers, tugs, barges, and recovery vessels to assist in containment and cleanup efforts in addition to dozens of aircraft, remotely operated vehicles, and multiple mobile offshore drilling units.

- Approximately 1.5 million feet of boom (regular and sorbent) have been deployed to contain the spill and approximately 1.5 million feet are available.
- Approximately 4 million gallons of an oil-water mix have been recovered.
- Approximately 436,000 gallons of dispersant have been deployed. More than 120,000 gallons are available.
- 14 staging areas have been set up to protect vital shoreline in all potentially affected Gulf Coast states (Biloxi, Miss., Pascagoula, Miss., Pensacola, Fla., Panama City, Fla., Dauphin Island, Ala., Grand Isle, La., Shell Beach, La., Slidell, La., Venice, La., Orange Beach, Ala., Theodore, Ala., Pass Christian, Miss., Amelia, La., and Cocodrie, La.).

TUESDAY, MAY 11

Interior Department Announces Reforms to Enhance Oil and Gas Oversight

As part of an ongoing agenda to change the way the Department of the Interior does business, Secretary of the Interior Ken Salazar announced a set of reforms that will provide federal inspectors more tools, more resources, more independence, and greater authority to enforce laws and regulations that apply to oil and gas companies operating on the Outer Continental Shelf. Salazar has also enlisted the National Academy of Engineering to provide a set of fresh eyes on the issues surrounding the Deepwater Horizon incident and an independent, science-based understanding of what happened.

NOAA Modifies Fishing Closed Areas in Gulf; 93 Percent Remains Open

NOAA's Fisheries Service modified the area closed to fishing in the Gulf of Mexico due to the spill, which will include federal waters seaward of Louisiana state waters in the vicinity of Timbalier Island to waters off Florida's Choctawhatchee Bay. These changes will leave more than 93 percent of the Gulf's federal waters open for fishing, and supporting productive fisheries and tourism.

NOAA also will expedite updates to the areas closed to fishing in the Gulf of Mexico, as well as public notice of those changes. The closure process is being improved to cut down on the red tape necessary to modify the boundaries of the closure area. Area boundaries could be modified daily, based on where and how fast the oil spill is moving. NOAA will provide daily updates at:

<http://sero.nmfs.noaa.gov>. By 12 p.m. EDT.

Scientific Assets Continue to Join the Response

NASA mobilized its remote-sensing assets to help assess the spread and impact of the Deepwater Horizon BP oil spill in the Gulf of Mexico at the request of U.S. disaster response agencies. NASA has deployed its instrumented research aircraft the Earth Resources-2 (ER-2) to the Gulf. The agency is also making extra satellite observations and conducting additional data processing

to assist the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, the U.S. Geological Survey, and the Department of Homeland Security in monitoring the spill.

Top Fisheries Scientist Dispatched

As part of its ongoing efforts to protect consumers, NOAA is sending one of its top fisheries science directors to the Gulf this week to lead its effort to rapidly assess, test and report findings about risks posed to fish in the Gulf of Mexico by contaminants from the BP oil spill and clean-up activities.

NOAA's Northeast Fisheries Science Center (NEFSC) Director Nancy Thompson, Ph.D, will head to Pascagoula, Miss., to lead NOAA's response team. Thompson will work closely with Bonnie Ponwith, Ph.D., the director at the agency's Southeast Fisheries Science Center, who is leading an intensified effort to monitor and assess the spill's effects on important species in the Gulf of Mexico.

Asian American and Pacific Islander Community Liaison Dispatched

White House Initiative on Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders Advisor on Community Engagement Miya Chen is joining the Area Unified Command Center in Robert, La., to assess the immediate needs of the Asian American community.

The Department of Labor's Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) and NIEHS are monitoring BP and its contractors to ensure that every worker receives necessary training in the worker's language, as OSHA regulations require.

The National Institute for Environmental Health Sciences (NIEHS) is collaborating with BP to provide Vietnamese-language translators and trainers. Vietnamese, Cambodian and Taiwanese translations of the BP Vessels of Opportunity fishing contracts is being provided at the Venice Community Center. BP has hired a local Vietnamese liaison officer and is contracting additional office support and translation.

OSHA Develops Multi-Lingual Worker Guides

OSHA is developing pocket-sized health and safety guides for cleanup workers and volunteers. Guides available in English should be ready by this weekend and guides in Spanish and Vietnamese should be ready for distribution early next week.

Leak Plug Tactic Approved by MMS

MMS approved the methanol injection to prevent hydrate formation in the top hat structure. The top hat should be on site by mid-week after modifications are made.

DOD Transports Boom and Equipment from Alaska

Following approval by Secretary of Defense Robert Gates for assistance, several commercial aircraft and numerous C-17 aircraft commenced missions to transport 150,000 feet of BP pollution response boom and approximately 250 short tons of Navy salvage equipment commenced movement from Anchorage, Alaska, to New Orleans.

By the Numbers to Date:

- Personnel were quickly deployed and approximately 13,000 are currently responding to protect the shoreline and wildlife.
- More than 460 vessels are responding on site, including skimmers, tugs, barges, and recovery vessels to assist in containment and cleanup efforts in addition to dozens of aircraft, remotely operated vehicles, and multiple mobile offshore drilling units.
- Approximately 1.4 million feet of boom (regular and sorbent) have been deployed to contain the spill and approximately 1.4 million feet are available.
- Approximately 3.6 million gallons of an oil-water mix have been recovered.
- Approximately 372,000 gallons of dispersant have been deployed.
- More than 180,000 gallons are available.
- 14 staging areas have been set up to protect vital shoreline in all potentially affected Gulf Coast states (Biloxi, Miss., Pascagoula, Miss., Pensacola, Fla., Panama City, Fla., Dauphin Island, Ala., Grand Isle, La., Shell Beach, La., Slidell, La., Venice, La., Orange Beach, Al., Theodore, Al., Pass Christian, Ms., Amelia, La., and Cocodrie, La.)

MONDAY, MAY 10

The President Meets with Cabinet Members in the Situation Room

President Obama met with a number of Cabinet members and senior staff in the White House Situation Room to review BP's efforts to stop the oil leak as well as to decide on next steps to ensure all is being done to contain the spread, mitigate the environmental impact and provide assistance to affected states, including individuals, businesses, and communities. The President asked Secretary Chu to lead a team of top administration officials and government scientists to Houston this week for an extensive dialogue with BP officials to continue to aggressively pursue potential solutions.

In addition, to deal more generally with the harms created by oil spills, the President has requested that legislation be sent to Congress to toughen and update the law surrounding caps on damages.

EPA Administrator Jackson Returns to the Gulf Coast

Administrator Jackson made another visit to the Gulf region to oversee efforts to mitigate the environmental and human health impact of the ongoing BP oil spill visiting Baton Rouge, La., to receive a briefing by Louisiana State University scientists; and Robert, La., to receive a briefing by federal agency scientists.

Secretary Salazar Dispatches Top Land Management Official

Interior Secretary Ken Salazar announced today that Director of the Bureau of Land Management Robert Abbey has been dispatched to the Gulf Coast to support ongoing response efforts to the BP Deepwater oil spill.

Navy Supports Skimming Operations

The U.S. Navy is providing assistance in the areas of skimming and salvage operations including 16 Modular Skimming Systems deployed to Gulfport, Miss. 1,400 total associated Department of Defense personnel have been deployed in support of spill cleanup and mitigation.

New Staging Location Opens in Amelia, La.

14 staging areas have been set up to protect vital shoreline in all potentially affected Gulf Coast states (Biloxi, Miss., Pascagoula, Miss., Pensacola, Fla., Panama City, Fla., Dauphin Island, Ala., Grand Isle, La., Shell Beach, La., Slidell, La., Venice, La., Orange Beach, Al., Theodore, Al., Pass Christian, Ms., Amelia, La., and Cocodrie, La.).

Property Damage Claims Processed

BP reports that 5,710 property damage claims have been opened, from which \$2.4 million has been disbursed. No claims have been denied at this time. Approximately 60 operators are answering phones, and average wait time is currently less than a minute. To file a claim, or report spill-related damage, call BP s helpline at:

1 (800) 440-0858.

For those who have already pursued the BP claims process and are not satisfied with BP s resolution, can call the Coast Guard at:

1 (800) 280-7118.

NOAA Conducts Research and Evaluation

NOAA Research is evaluating the information obtained from the NOAA P-3 (hurricane hunter) aircraft flight over the Gulf of Mexico Loop Current on May 8.

Lessons Learned from Exxon Valdez Examined

Alaska and Louisiana Sea Grant personnel are meeting regularly with Alaska Oil Spill Responders to explore lessons learned from the Exxon Valdez incident and possible applications to the Deepwater Horizon. NOAA's Sea Grant is a university-based network of more than 3,000 scientists, engineers and educators.

Fish & Wildlife Field Crews Respond

Eight field crews have been deployed from the Dennis Pass Wildlife Staging Area to observe the impact on wildlife due to the spill. Wildlife search and capture teams conducted boat operations from the Lake Borgne to the Southwest Pass of the Mississippi River and west to Cameron, La. Four helicopters conducted aerial surveys to observe wildlife and determine if rescue operations are needed in potentially affected areas.

Water and Sediment is Sampled

The U.S. Geological Survey completed water and sediment sampling at 16 sites along coastal Alabama and Mississippi. USGS is preparing for sampling in Texas and Florida, and also for sea-grass bed surveys.

Plans Begin for Bioremediation

USDA's Natural Resources Conservation Service is assessing the capabilities of Plant Materials Centers and asking commercial growers to ramp up plant propagation efforts for potential future bioremediation efforts.

Aerial Dispersant Spray Missions Flown

Modular Aerial Spray System (MASS) aircraft flew multiple missions dispensing the same dispersant chemical being used by BP and the federal responders. These systems are capable of covering up to 250 acres per flight.

By the Numbers to Date:

- Personnel were quickly deployed and approximately 10,000 are currently responding to protect the shoreline and wildlife.
- More than 290 vessels are responding on site, including skimmers, tugs, barges, and recovery vessels to assist in containment and cleanup efforts in addition to dozens of aircraft, remotely operated vehicles, and multiple mobile offshore drilling units.
- More than 1 million feet of boom (regular and sorbent) have been deployed to contain the spill.
- More than 1.3 million feet are available.
- Nearly 3.5 million gallons of an oil-water mix have been recovered.

- Approximately 325,000 gallons of dispersant have been deployed.
- More than 500,000 gallons are available.

14 staging areas have been set up to protect vital shoreline in all potentially affected Gulf Coast states (Biloxi, Miss., Pascagoula, Miss., Pensacola, Fla., Panama City, Fla., Dauphin Island, Ala., Grand Isle, La., Shell Beach, La., Slidell, La., Venice, La., Orange Beach, Al., Theodore, Al., Pass Christian, Ms., Amelia, La., and Cocodrie, La.).

SUNDAY, MAY 9

DOI Leadership Deployments

Secretary of the Interior Ken Salazar dispatched Director of the National Park Service Jon Jarvis and Acting Director of the Fish and Wildlife Service Rowan Gould to command centers along the Gulf Coast to help lead efforts to protect coastal communities and natural resources from oil spill. Jarvis is stationed in the Mobile, Ala., Incident Command Center, and Gould is stationed in the Houma, La., Incident Command Center.

Drilling Rig Inspection and Oversight

MMS has completed its inspections of all 30 deepwater drilling rigs and is now inspecting all deepwater production platforms. The Minerals Management Service (MMS) continues to work with BP to explore all options that could stop or mitigate oil leaks from the damaged well. Pursuant to MMS's regulatory authority, all plans are being reviewed and approved by MMS before implementation.

Snare Booms Erected

Cleanup crews have placed snare boom to collect tar balls in the affected area on Dauphin Island. Snare boom can be staked along beaches and shoreline to act as a filter and prevent tar balls from coming ashore. Analysis of the tar balls is being conducted to determine the origin of the oil and may take 48 hours to complete. Shoreline assessment teams typically consist of three or four trained personnel prepared to evaluate a section of shoreline, equipped with proper protective gear. Trained volunteers may assist members of the group. Team members must have basic site safety training and training sufficient to complete an evaluation of the beach. Reports of tar balls can be made to the Coast Guard at any time at:

1-800-448-5816.

13 Staging Areas Along Gulf Coast

13 staging areas have been set up to protect vital shoreline in all potentially affected Gulf Coast states (Biloxi, Miss., Pascagoula, Miss., Pensacola, Fla., Panama City, Fla., Dauphin Island, Ala.,

Grand Isle, La., Shell Beach, La., Slidell, La., Venice, La., Orange Beach, Al., Theodore, Al., Pass Christian, Ms., Cocodrie, La.).

NOAA Oversight Activities

NOAA Administrator Jane Lubchenco met with scientists at the Dauphin Island (Ala.) Sea Lab and representatives from the Mobile (Ala.) Port Authority, and participated in a briefing at the Mobile Incident Command Center. NOAA continues to provide scientific support including: modeling the trajectory and location of the oil, getting pre-impact shoreline samples surveys and baseline measurements, and planning for open water and shoreline remediation.

NOAA Observational Flights

One of NOAA's P-3 (hurricane hunter) aircraft conducted a flight to help monitor the location of the Gulf of Mexico Loop Current. NOAA also flew missions for marine mammal surveys, coastal photography and mapping purposes.

Assets to Date

- Total response vessels: more than 275
- Boom deployed: more than 1 million feet (regular plus sorbent boom)
- Boom available: more than 1.3 million feet (regular plus sorbent boom)
- Oily water recovered: approximately 3.5 million gallons
- Dispersant used: approximately 325,000 gallons
- Dispersant available: more than 500,000 gallons
- Overall personnel responding: approximately 10,000

SATURDAY, MAY 8

Natural Resources Impact Assessments

Department of the Interior Assistant Secretary for Fish and Wildlife and Parks Tom Strickland and National Parks Service Director John Jarvis surveyed the impact of the oil spill on natural resources in the Gulf Islands. In total, 310 DOI personnel have been deployed as part of the oil spill response, representing the DOI Gulf Leadership Team, FWS, MMS, NPS and the DOI Office of Emergency Management.

U.S. Geological Survey Oil Response Team Activated

The U.S. Geological Survey Oil Response Team was activated to communicate and coordinate daily response activities, including supplying biologic, coastal geology, hydrology and geographic data to other agencies, partners, and emergency responders.

Damage Assessment Activities

NOAA's Damage Assessment Remediation and Restoration Program is coordinating an assessment of damage to natural resources with federal partners, BP (as the responsible party), and trustees in Louisiana, Alabama, Mississippi and Florida. Multiple agencies from each state are engaged. This assessment will gauge impacts to fish, shellfish, marine mammals, turtles, birds and other sensitive resources as well as their habitats, including wetlands, beaches, mudflats, bottom sediments, corals and the water column. The trustees will also assess any lost human uses of these resources, for example, fishing, hunting, and beach recreational closures. The trustees are also assessing the efficacy of evaluating impacts from the response, including burning, and dispersant use at the surface and at depth.

Natural Resource Damage Assessment (NRDA) is a legal process to determine the type and amount of restoration needed to compensate the public for harm to natural resources and their human uses that occur as a result of an oil spill. For more information, visit:
<http://www.uscg.mil/npfc/>

Expanded Low-Interest Small Business Loans

SBA Administrator Karen Mills announced that SBA is making economic injury assistance available in 21 additional parishes for small businesses suffering financial losses following the Deepwater BP oil spill that shut down commercial and recreational fishing along the state's southeast coast. With these additions, SBA economic injury loans are now available in 34 Louisiana parishes and seven Mississippi counties.

Fishing Industry Engagement

NOAA Administrator Jane Lubchenco and her staff continue to meet with fishermen in the oil-affected area to listen to their concerns and share with them what NOAA scientists have learned so far about how the oil might be affecting their potential seafood catch.

NOAA Observational Flights

NOAA aircraft flew observational over flights of the oil spill, during which trained observers recorded locations of oil and affected wildlife. NOAA aircraft also flew coastal photography and mapping missions. A NOAA P-3 aircraft (one of NOAA's hurricane hunter aircraft) flew preparatory missions to calibrate trajectory models of the Gulf of Mexico Loop Current.

- Total response vessels: more than 270
- Boom deployed: approximately 923,000 feet (regular plus sorbent boom)
- Boom available: approximately 1.3 million feet (regular plus sorbent boom)
- Oily water recovered: nearly 2.1 million gallons
- Dispersant used: approximately 290,000 gallons
- Dispersant available: more than 185,000 gallons
- Overall personnel responding: more than 10,000

FRIDAY, MAY 7

Deploying and Activating the Cofferdam

The Unified Area Command is carefully tracking the complicated procedure to assemble a subsea capture system that would entail pumping leaking oil up to a vessel on the surface.

Offshore Drilling Permit Applications Halted

Secretary Salazar announced that, as a result of the Deepwater Horizon explosion and spill, beginning April 20 the date of the explosion no applications for drilling permits will go forward for any new offshore drilling activity until the Department of the Interior completes the safety review process that President Obama requested. In accordance with the President's request, the Department will deliver its report to the President by May 28. The only exceptions to the new rule regarding permit approvals are the two relief wells that are being drilled in response to the Deepwater Horizon disaster.

Expanded Fishing Restriction

NOAA has modified and expanded the boundaries of the closed fishing area to better reflect the current location of the oil spill, and is extending the fishing restriction until May 17. The closed area now represents slightly less than 4.5 percent of Gulf of Mexico federal waters. The original closure boundaries, which took effect last Sunday, encompassed less than three percent. This leaves many areas that are still available for fishing. The vast majority of Gulf waters has not been affected by the oil spill and continues to support productive fisheries and tourism activities. NOAA Administrator Jane Lubchenco and her staff will continue to meet with fishermen in the oil-affected area to listen to their concerns and share with them what NOAA scientists have learned so far about how the oil might be affecting their potential seafood catch.

Fish & Wildlife Monitoring

More than 160 Fish & Wildlife Service personnel are involved in the oil spill response in Louisiana, Mississippi, Alabama and the west coast of Florida. Shoreline Cleanup Assessment Teams (SCAT) continue to assess and determine how cleanup will be conducted, and oversee cleanup operations.

FWS personnel continue to conduct over flights of the Chandeleur Islands today to monitor the status of the brown pelican colonies. FWS closed the Breton National Wildlife Refuge to public entry. The refuge closure is important to keep the public safe, to minimize disturbance to nesting colonial sea birds, and to allow personnel conducting cleanup operations and recovery efforts to work safely and efficiently.

Emergency Food Support

USDA's Food and Nutrition Service (FNS) met with Louisiana food bank directors to discuss potential need for USDA food support and to assess inventory that might be available for distribution to affected areas. FNS was informed that BP has made a \$100,000 contribution to assist with local emergency food needs. FNS discussed income eligibility of potential Louisiana women, infants and children affected by the oil spill with the State of Louisiana.

Secretary Salazar Oversight Activities

Secretary Salazar continued his oversight activities in a meeting with BP officials in Houston today and met with the manufacturers of the Blowout Preventer (BOP) device to discuss the damaged wellhead. The BOPs contain mechanisms designed to shut off the flow of oil and gas, either on command or automatically, when a wellhead is damaged or experiences a blowout. Federal and company engineers are seeking to determine why the BOP atop the Deepwater Horizon well failed to activate as designed.

Secretary Salazar directed U.S. Geological Survey Director Dr. Marcia McNutt to remain at BP's command center to help coordinate the joint efforts of federal scientists and BP engineers who are working on several technological challenges and approaches to securing the damaged well head, capturing the leak and controlling the spill.

Aerial Dispersant Missions

Modular Aerial Spray System (MASS) aircraft flew multiple missions dispensing the same dispersant chemical being used by BP and the federal responders. These systems are capable of covering up to 250 acres per flight.

Successful Controlled Burn

Favorable weather conditions allowed responders to conduct a successful controlled burn operation for the second consecutive day. As part of a coordinated response that combines tactics deployed above water, below water, offshore, and close to coastal areas, controlled burns efficiently remove oil from the open water in an effort to protect shoreline and wildlife.

- Total response vessels: nearly 270
- Boom deployed: approximately 829,000 feet, more than 150 miles (regular plus sorbent boom)
- Boom available: approximately 1.3 million feet (regular plus sorbent boom)
- Oily water recovered: nearly 1.9 million gallons
- Dispersant used: more than 282,000 gallons
- Dispersant available: more than 317,000 gallons
- Overall personnel responding: more than 10,000

THURSDAY, MAY 6

Top Officials Visit Gulf Coast

Top administration officials traveled to the Gulf Coast at the direction of the President to meet with federal, state and local officials, as well as local business leaders, as part of their continued oversight of BP's efforts to plug the leak and contain the spill, and their ongoing emphasis on interagency coordination in response to the event.

Secretary Napolitano and Secretary Locke visited Biloxi, Miss., and Pensacola, Fla., to inspect response operations, meet with state, local and private sector leaders, and view firsthand staging areas for the deployment of boom to protect vital shoreline from the oil spill. Administrator Lubchenco accompanied the group to Biloxi, then joined White House Council on Environmental Quality Chair Nancy Sutley in Pascagoula, Miss., to tour NOAA's seafood inspection lab.

Secretary Salazar visited the Mobile Command Center in Mobile, Ala., to observe response efforts and talk with responders about ongoing operations and mitigation plans. He also met with BP Officials at their command center in Houston to get an update on BP's efforts to close down their leaks.

EPA Deputy Administrator Bob Perciasepe traveled to Louisiana, where he reviewed EPA's ongoing air and water monitoring activities, met with local and community leaders, and assessed the environmental situation on the ground.

Low-Interest Loans for Small Businesses

Small Business Administration Administrator Karen Mills announced the agency is making low-interest loans available to Louisiana Gulf Coast small businesses suffering financial losses following the oil spill, which shut down commercial and recreational fishing along the state's southeast coast acting under the SBA's authority to offer economic injury assistance in response to a May 4 request from Gov. Bobby Jindal.

NOAA Mission Redirected for Oil Spill Response

A NOAA-sponsored ocean mission, set to explore for deep sea corals, has been redirected to collect seafloor and water column data from areas near the Gulf of Mexico oil spill source. Researchers from the National Institute for Undersea Science and Technology are on a university research ship to obtain core sediment samples from the seafloor and water samples from the water column in areas near the spill source. The samples are expected to provide important information about the abundance of marine organisms and the presence of chemicals in ocean water and sediments information for a baseline against which to measure change if those areas are affected by sinking oil.

Oil Reaches Shoreline

Shoreline Cleanup and Assessment Teams (SCAT) federal, state and BP officials working to assess and determine how cleanup will be conducted, and oversee cleanup operations confirmed that oil was found on the beach at Chandeleur Islands, a small group of uninhabited barrier islands off the northeast of the Mississippi Delta. The Chandeleur Islands are part of the Breton National Wildlife Refuge.

Successful Controlled Burn

Favorable weather conditions allowed responders to conduct a successful controlled burn operation for the second consecutive day. As part of a coordinated response that combines tactics deployed above water, below water, offshore, and close to coastal areas, controlled burns efficiently remove oil from the open water in an effort to protect shoreline and wildlife.

Emergency Response Stockpiles Arrive

More than 80 flatbed trucks carrying Emergency Ship Salvage Material supplies part of a managed network of emergency response equipment stockpiles pre-positioned to support and augment U.S. Navy Fleet capabilities to respond to pollution and other events have arrived at staging areas for immediate deployment.

Cofferdam Drill Ship Inspection Completed

MMS completed its production system inspection for the drill ship Discoverer Enterprise the vessel that will be used to operate the cofferdam system and process the oily water pumped from the riser plume.

CDC Toxic Substance Monitoring

The Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) National Center for Environmental Health and Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry are monitoring the gulf oil spill and offering assistance as needed to lead federal agencies and impacted states and communities.

Oil Cleanup Worker Health & Safety Training

National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences is working with BP contractors to provide technical assistance in development and deployment of health and safety training to workers.

New Weather Forecast Website

NOAA's National Weather Service has created a special forecast website, available at: <http://www.srh.noaa.gov/lix/>.

NOAA Aircraft Missions

NOAA aircraft flew marine mammal survey missions and ocean imaging missions providing valuable information about the oil thickness and density on the ocean surface.

NPS Incident Management Teams

The National Park Service has activated two incident management teams in the Gulf. Many other park service employees in the area are supporting the response with technical information and assistance.

Aerial Dispersant Spray Missions

Modular Aerial Spray System (MASS) aircraft flew numerous dispersant missions dispensing the same dispersant chemical being used by BP and the federal responders. These systems are capable of covering up to 250 acres per flight. To ensure nearby residents are informed and protected, the EPA is constantly monitoring air quality in the Gulf area through air monitoring aircraft, and fixed and mobile air stations.

- Total response vessels: nearly 270
- Boom deployed: approximately 750,000 feet (regular plus sorbent boom)
- Boom available: 1.4 million feet (regular plus sorbent boom)
- Oily water recovered: more than 1.8 million gallons
- Dispersant used: more than 253,000 gallons
- Dispersant available: more than 317,000 gallons
- Overall personnel responding: more than 10,000

WEDNESDAY, MAY 5

Secretary Salazar Gulf Coast Visit

Secretary of the Interior Ken Salazar surveyed ongoing response efforts to combat the BP oil spill in the Gulf of Mexico, inspecting the four-story cofferdam that will attempt to capture the largest leak from the damaged wellhead; making an aerial survey of containment and cleanup efforts underway on Gulf waters; and visiting national wildlife refuges on the Louisiana and Alabama coast to assess on-the-ground efforts to protect sensitive areas.

Successful Controlled Burn

Favorable weather conditions allowed responders to conduct a successful controlled burn operation. As part of a coordinated response that combines tactics deployed above water, below

water, offshore, and close to coastal areas, controlled burns efficiently remove oil from the open water in an effort to protect shoreline and wildlife.

NASA Satellite Assets

At NOAA's request, NASA has agreed to use their ER-2 aircraft, equipped with a highly specialized scanner (the Airborne Visible/Infrared Imaging Spectrometer (AVIRIS) system) to provide NOAA high resolution images of the threatened Gulf shoreline. This will assist valuable NOAA's damage assessment activities by forecasting spill trajectories and conducting mass balance calculations. Additionally, NASA has employed satellite instruments both to detect the extent of the entire oil spill, and to see the details of the extent of selected areas of the spill.

Additional Staging Location

A 10th staging location was established in Panama City, Fla., joining nine others in Biloxi, Miss., Pensacola, Fla., Pascagoula, Miss., Dauphin Island, Ala., Port Sulphur, La., Shell Beach, La., Slidell, La., Port Fourchon, La., and Venice, La.

Aerial Dispersant Spray Missions

Modular Aerial Spray System (MASS) aircraft flew four missions dispensing the same dispersant chemical being used by BP and the federal responders. These systems are capable of covering up to 250 acres per flight.

Seafood Inspection

NOAA Fisheries continues to collect seafood samples and transfer those to the National Seafood Inspection Lab.

NOAA Ocean and Marsh Imaging Flights

Two NOAA turbo-prop aircraft are positioned in Mobile, Ala. One will fly marine mammal survey missions the second aircraft will conduct ocean imaging missions, providing valuable information about the oil thickness and density on the sea surface. A third NOAA aircraft is positioned in New Orleans and staged to conduct aerial photographic flights of marsh areas.

Ocean Exploration Mission

A NOAA Office of Ocean Exploration and Research-sponsored mission is en route to collect seafloor and water column data from areas near the oil spill source.

National Park Service Response Website

The National Park Service created an oil spill response website, available at:

<http://www.nps.gov/aboutus/oil-spill-response>

This is to update the public about potential park closures, resources at risk, and NPS actions to protect vital park space and wildlife.

- Total response vessels: nearly 200
- Boom deployed: 564,991 feet (regular plus sorbent boom)
- Boom available: 1.6 million feet (regular plus sorbent boom)
- Oily water recovered: more than 1.2 million gallons
- Dispersant used: more than 190,000 gallons
- Dispersant available: more than 55,600 gallons
- Overall personnel responding: approximately 7,900

TUESDAY, MAY 4

Cabinet Officials Brief Members of Congress

Secretary Salazar, Secretary of Commerce Gary Locke, Administrator Jackson, DHS Deputy Secretary Jane Holl Lute and Admiral Allen provided a bi-partisan and bi-cameral briefing to Congress on the administration's all-hands-on-deck response to the spill. They updated members of Congress on the status of ongoing, coordinated response efforts in the Gulf coast states and delivered an update on BP's mitigation plans for potentially impacted Gulf Coast states.

Cabinet Officials Host Daily Coordination Calls with the Gulf Coast State Governors

To ensure consistent coordination with the Gulf Coast states, Admiral Thad Allen, Secretaries Janet Napolitano and Ken Salazar, Administrator Lisa Jackson and NOAA Deputy Under Secretary Monica Medina began daily calls with the Governors from the five Gulf Coast states to provide updates on the response to the BP oil spill and answer any questions that arise. Governors Barbour, Crist, Jindal, Perry and Riley have been invited to participate in the daily calls moving forward. These daily calls are a follow up to the calls last Friday and Sunday between the Governors and the agencies involved in the federal response, as well as the calls last week between the President and the Governors and the President's visit to the region on Sunday. These calls are intended to further the already unprecedented cooperation and focused effort between state and local officials and the federal government in response to this situation.

National Guard Activation

Secretary Gates has authorized use of Title 32 status for up to 17,500 National Guard members in four states: Alabama (3,000), Florida (2,500), Louisiana (6,000) and Mississippi (6,000).

The state of Louisiana has activated approximately 1,200 National Guard members under Title 32 for command and control and sandbagging operations in St Bernard and Plaquemines parishes. Louisiana National Guard personnel are actively manning the Joint Operations Center and Tactical Aviation Cell.

20 More Vessels and 4,500 Responders Are Deployed to the Gulf Coast

The response continues to mobilize and move more resources into the gulf to support BP, the responsible party, and apply federal resources to mitigate environmental damage, including moving 20 more vessels to the area and deploying an additional 4,500 responders.

Air Quality Monitoring

EPA's Air Quality Index (AQI) tracks levels of particulate matter and ozone along the Gulf Coast data available publicly daily at <http://www.airnow.gov> and <http://gulfcoast.airnowtech.org>. In addition to these monitors, EPA's emergency response teams have put up multiple monitoring stations to track larger particulate matter. The location of these monitoring stations is flexible as conditions change during this response.

The next in a daily series of press briefings was conducted between the Minerals Management Service (MMS), the Coast Guard, NOAA, BP and Transocean at the Joint Information Center in Robert, La., as well as daily legislative and intergovernmental calls.

Assets to Date:

- 20 More Vessels and 4,000 Responders Arrive
- Total response vessels: nearly 200
- Boom deployed: 367,881 feet (regular plus sorbent boom)
- Boom available: more than 1 million feet (regular plus sorbent boom)
- Oily water recovered: more than 1 million gallons
- Dispersant used: nearly 160,000 gallons
- Dispersant available: 230,000 gallons
- Overall personnel responding: approximately 7,500

MONDAY, MAY 3

The President Dispatches Senior Cabinet Officials Back to the Gulf Coast

The President dispatches the secretaries of Commerce, Interior and Homeland Security, the EPA Administrator and the NOAA Administrator to return to the Gulf Coast this week. Specific details on their travel will come from their departments and agencies, but collectively they will

be inspecting the ongoing, coordinated response efforts to mitigate the impact of the spill on public health, the environment and the economy. They will meet with business owners to discuss potential economic impacts of this spill across the Gulf Coast region.

Senior Administration Officials Meet with BP Senior Leadership

Secretary Salazar, Secretary Napolitano, EPA Administrator Jackson and other members of the Obama administration met with BP CEO Tony Hayward and BP America Chairman and President Lamar McKay at the Department of the Interior to discuss ongoing, coordinated response efforts and receive an update on BP's mitigation plans for potentially impacted Gulf Coast states. This was the most recent in a series of meetings that have taken place between administration leadership and BP leadership.

White House Convenes Deputy's Committee Meeting in Situation Room

The White House convenes a meeting at the deputy secretary level with senior officials from across the government to discuss the escalating situation, the response and to continue planning for worsening situations

More Than 2,000 Volunteers Are Trained To Assist

More than 2,000 volunteers receive training to assist in the response effort to that date. Volunteer recruitment efforts include outreach to local fishermen with boats, which can be used as vessels of opportunity to assist contractors in deploying boom.

OSHA Ensures Cleanup Workers Receive Necessary Protection

Assistant Secretary of Labor for Occupational Safety and Health Dr. David Michaels visits Louisiana with a team of experienced hazardous materials professionals leading an effort to ensure that oil spill cleanup workers receive necessary protections from the hazards of this work. OSHA is consulting with BP, as well as federal agency partners, to ensure that workers receive appropriate training and protective equipment.

Assets To Date 80 More Vessels Arrive

- Total response vessels: 183
- Boom deployed: 156,703 feet
- Boom available: 530,061 feet
- Oily water recovered: more than 1 million gallons
- Dispersant used: 156,012 gallons
- Dispersant available: 230,138 gallons
- Overall personnel responding: approximately 3,000

SUNDAY, MAY 2

President Obama Visits Gulf Coast to Inspect Response Effort

President Obama visits the Gulf Coast to inspect response operations firsthand, underscoring the administration's all-hands-on-deck response to protect the coastline of potentially affected Gulf Coast states.

EPA Posts First Air Monitoring Data Results

EPA posts on its dedicated response website the first air monitoring data it has collected in the area with no red flags.

NOAA Announces Fishing Restriction

NOAA announces a fishing restriction for a minimum of ten days in federal waters most affected by the BP oil spill, largely between Louisiana state waters at the mouth of the Mississippi River to waters off Florida's Pensacola Bay. The closure was effective immediately. This order balances economic and health concerns and only closes those areas affected by oil. Details can be found at: <http://sero.nmfs.noaa.gov/>

Secretaries Napolitano and Salazar Host Gulf Coast States Conference Call

Secretaries Janet Napolitano and Ken Salazar spoke by conference call to Governors Haley Barbour (MS), Bob Riley (AL), Rick Perry (TX), Charlie Crist (FL) and the Deputy Chief of Staff to Gov. Bobby Jindal (LA). Gov. Jindal was with President Obama. They briefed the Governors on the ongoing response to the BP oil spill in the gulf. They spoke specifically about efforts to stop the oil leaks and about mitigating the oil's impact on the shorelines of their states. Additionally, they spoke about ways to enhance what has been strong cooperation between the federal government and the states.

30 More Vessels and Additional 1,000 Responders Are Deployed to the Gulf Coast

The response continues to mobilize and move more resources into the gulf to support BP, the responsible party, and apply federal resources to mitigate environmental damage, including moving 30 more vessels to the area and deploying an additional 1,000 responders

BP Begins Accepting Claims

BP begins accepting claims for the Gulf Coast oil spill via BP's helpline at 1-800-440-0858. A BP fact sheet with additional information is available here:

<http://www.deepwaterhorizonresponse.com/go/doctype/2931/53023/>

Those who have already pursued the BP claims process and are not satisfied with BP's resolution can call the Coast Guard at 1-800-280-7118. More information about what types of

damages are eligible for compensation under the Oil Pollution Act as well as guidance on procedures to seek that compensation can be found here:

<http://www.uscg.mil/npfc/>

Additional DOD Assets Arrive

Two Modular Aerial Spray System (MASS) aircraft were deployed in support of the event. Both aircraft have multiple missions scheduled daily, contingent on weather. These aircraft can dispense the same dispersant chemical being used by BP and the federal responders. Each system is capable of covering up to 250 acres per flight with three flights per aircraft per day building on existing dispersant capabilities.

A C-17 aircraft carrying pollution response boom components for support flew from Travis AFB in California and arrived at Mobile International Airport.

MMS Reports that BP Begins Drilling First Deep-Water Intercept Relief Well

MMS reported that BP began drilling the first deep-water intercept relief well. This action is expected to take approximately 90 days.

Assets To Date:

- 30 More Vessels and Additional 1,000 Responders Arrive
- Total response vessels: 104
- Boom deployed: 243,200 feet
- Boom available: 522,821 feet
- Oily water recovered: more than 1 million gallons
- Dispersant used: 156,012 gallons
- Dispersant available: 75,124 gallons
- Overall personnel responding: approximately 3,000

SATURDAY, MAY 1

Secretary Napolitano Names U.S. Coast Guard Commandant Admiral Thad Allen to Serve as National Incident Commander

As part of the designation of the BP Oil Spill as a Spill of National Significance, Secretary Napolitano announces that Coast Guard Commandant Admiral Thad Allen will serve as the National Incident Commander for the administration's continued, coordinated response providing additional coordinated oversight in leveraging every available resource to respond to the BP oil spill and minimize the associated environmental risks. Admiral Allen has overseen Coast Guard efforts since the moment this event began, when the agency responded quickly to the April 20 explosion in a search and rescue capacity in order to save lives. With this formal

designation Admiral Allen is able to continue to lead and coordinate ongoing federal actions to mitigate the oil spill, for which BP is responsible and required to pay response and cleanup costs.

The President is Briefed

The President monitors the response and is briefed throughout the day by the White House Situation Room

White House Convenes Deputy's Committee Meeting in Situation Room

The White House convenes a meeting at the deputy secretary level with senior officials from across the government to discuss the escalating situation and the response

White House Homeland Security Advisor and U.S. Coast Guard commandant Brief Reporters Via Conference Call on the Ongoing Response Efforts

White House Homeland Security Advisor John Brennan and Admiral Allen brief media via conference call about ongoing efforts to contain the spill and minimize associated environmental risks.

DOD Airlifts Additional Booms To Better Protect Gulf Coast

To prepare for the possible spreading of the oil slick across the Gulf Coast and in support of the 2nd Unified command Center in Mobile, Ala., the Department of Defense airlifted additional boom materials to Mobile, located on four tractor trailers to expedite transportation on the receiving end.

Eight Staging Areas Begin Operating

Eight staging areas were operating in Venice, La., Biloxi, Miss., Pascagoula, Miss., Theodore, Ala., Pensacola, Fla., Port Sulphur, La., Gulfport, Miss., and Port Fourchon, La.

Assets To Date

- Total response vessels: approximately 75
- Boom deployed: 275,580 feet
- Boom available: 316,470 feet
- Oily water recovered: more than 1 million gallons
- Dispersant used: 142,914 gallons
- Dispersant available: 68,300 gallons
- Overall personnel responding: approximately 2,000

Response Photos:

http://cgvi.uscg.mil/media/main.php?g2_itemId=847276

FRIDAY, APRIL 30

The President Dispatches Senior Administration Officials to the Gulf Coast

The President dispatches Secretary Napolitano, Secretary Salazar, EPA Administrator Lisa Jackson, Assistant to the President for Energy and Climate Change Policy Carol Browner, and NOAA Administrator Jane Lubchenco to the Gulf Coast.

The President Makes Remarks on the Oil Spill s Escalating Situation

The President updates Americans on the ongoing federal response to the worsening BP oil spill

National Guard Activation

In response to the BP oil spill, the Secretary of Defense authorizes under Title 32 the mobilization of the Louisiana National Guard to help in the ongoing efforts to assist local communities in the cleanup and removal of oil and to protect critical habitats from contamination.

Secretary of Defense Approves Request for Two C-130 Aircrafts To Respond

The Secretary of Defense approves a request for two C-130 aircraft with Modular Aerial Spray Systems (MASS), which are currently en route to the affected area. The Coast Guard requested assistance from the Department of Defense for these aircraft. These aircraft dispense the same dispersant chemical being used by BP and the federal responders. Each system is capable of covering up to 250 acres per flight with three flights per aircraft per day.

Response Crews Begin Testing New Dispersant Technique

Response crews begin testing a new technique to break up the oil before it reaches the surface a remotely operated underwater vehicle dispensing sub-surface dispersant at a rate of nine gallons per minute. Nearly 3,000 gallons of subsea dispersants were applied, and BP and NOAA evaluated these tests to determine the feasibility of continued use of subsea dispersants.

EPA Begins Monitoring Water Quality, Administrator Jackson Remains On The Ground

EPA begins monitoring water quality in the Gulf Coast region. EPA Administrator Jackson remains on the ground in the region for the following three days, visiting sites in Louisiana and Mississippi and meeting with community leaders, local industry and elected leaders at the state and local level.

The President is Briefed

The President monitors the response and is briefed throughout the day by the White House Situation Room

DOI Establishes Outer Continental Shelf Safety Oversight Board

DOI establishes the Outer Continental Shelf (OCS) Safety Oversight Board to provide recommendations regarding interim measures that may enhance OCS safety, as well as improving and strengthening the Department's overall management, regulation and oversight of OCS operations. Secretary Salazar will provide a report to President Obama within 30 days on what, if any, immediate additional precautions and technologies should be required

Senior Federal and State Officials Hold Joint Press Briefing On-Site

Secretary Napolitano, Secretary Salazar, EPA Administrator Jackson, Louisiana Governor Bobby Jindal and BP Chief Operating Officer Doug Suttles conducted a press briefing. Daily legislative and intergovernmental calls were also conducted.

NOAA Provides additional resources to protect critical wildlife

Personnel from NOAA's National Marine Sanctuaries program provided additional resources for both response and assessment efforts to protect critical wildlife.

Sixth Staging Area Stood Up

A sixth staging area is set up in Port Sulphur, La., joining five others in Venice, La., Biloxi, Miss., Pascagoula, Miss., Theodore, Ala., Pensacola, Fla.

Assets To Date:

- 1,000 More Responders Arrive
- Total response vessels: approximately 75
- Boom deployed: 217,000 feet
- Boom available: 305,760 feet
- Oily water recovered: 853,146 gallons
- Dispersant used: 139,459 gallons
- Dispersant available: 51,000 gallons
- Overall personnel responding: approximately 2,000

Response Photos:

<http://www.flickr.com/photos/usnavynvns/4574068993/>

<http://www.flickr.com/photos/usnavynvns/4574069413/>

http://cgvi.uscg.mil/media/main.php?g2_itemId=844563

<http://www.flickr.com/photos/uscgd8/4566787948/>

THURSDAY, APRIL 29

Oil Spill Update During the PDB

The President receives another in depth briefing of the escalating situation in his morning PDB session

Spill of National Significance is Declared and White House Holds Briefing for White House Reporters on The Additional Breach and Corresponding Response Efforts

Senior officials from across the government, including Secretary Napolitano, EPA Administrator Jackson and NOAA Administrator Lubchenco and White House Press Secretary Robert Gibbs brief White House reporters in the White House briefing room on the change in the event: the additional breach.

Secretary Napolitano announces that the event would now become designated a Spill of National Significance (SONS), which built on the efforts already underway from day one to leverage the full resources of the federal government to be brought to bear in response to this further escalating event. The SONS designation enabled the appointment of a National Incident Commander to coordinate response resources at the national level. The designation does not provide additional funding or authority nor was it needed, as that authority already existed and resources were mobilized in case the situation worsened from day one. This is why the day DHS announced the SONS designation, there were already more than 70 vessels in the Gulf of Mexico responding to the spill and approximately 1,100 personnel already deployed and on scene to assist.

The President Orders Secretary Salazar to Deliver Report on Additional Safety Measures for Offshore Operations to be Completed Within 30 Days

Secretary Salazar receives direction from the President to deliver in 30 days a report with recommendations on what, if any, additional safety measures should be required for offshore operations. He then announced that inspections of all deepwater rigs and platforms were underway.

The President Makes Remarks on the Oil Spill s Escalated Situation

The President updates the American people on the worsening situation in the Gulf of Mexico and states that his administration will continue to use every single available resource at our disposal, including potentially the Department of Defense, to address the incident.

White House Convenes Deputy's Committee Meeting in Situation Room

The White House convenes a meeting at the deputy secretary level with senior officials from across the government to discuss the escalating situation, the response and to continue planning for worsening situations

DOD Designates Mississippi s Keesler Air Force Base as Base Support Installation

DOD designates Keesler Air Force Base in Mississippi as a base support installation. The installation will serve as a location where military units conduct logistical operations.

DOI Secretary Salazar Hosts Meeting of Oil and Gas Companies to urge them to help.

Secretary Salazar spends the day in Houston reviewing BP s operations and response efforts. Upon his return from Houston, Secretary Salazar hosts a meeting of oil and gas companies in his office and urged them to make available all available resources to the response.

Daily On-Site Press Briefing, Legislative and Intergovernmental Calls are Conducted

The next in a daily series of press briefings was conducted between the Minerals Management Service (MMS), the Coast Guard, NOAA, BP and Transocean at the Joint Information Center in Robert, La., as well as daily legislative and intergovernmental calls.

Assets Deployed To Date-

- Additional 25 Vessels Arrive
- Total response vessels: approximately 75
- Boom deployed: 174,060 feet
- Boom available: 243,260 feet
- Oily water recovered: 763,560 gallons
- Dispersant used: 98,361 gallons
- Dispersant available: 75,000 gallons
- Overall personnel responding: more than 1,000

Response Photos:

http://cgvi.uscg.mil/media/main.php?g2_itemId=844167

http://cgvi.uscg.mil/media/main.php?g2_itemId=844164

http://www.nasa.gov/images/content/449676main_gulf-spill-full.jpg

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 28

Controlled Burn Is Conducted

A successful controlled, on-location burn is conducted for approximately 30 minutes a strategy designed to minimize environmental risks by removing large quantities of oil in the Gulf of Mexico following the April 20 explosion. Burns of this type are heavily dependent on weather conditions.

Secretary Salazar Travels to BP Command Center in Houston

Secretary Salazar travels to the BP command center in Houston to review BP's operations and response efforts.

MMS Approves First Drilling Permit for First Relief Well

MMS reports that the drilling permit for the first relief well had been approved, and that the application for the second relief well was under review.

U.S. Navy Sends Additional Assets

In direct support of the Coast Guard under an existing pollution clean-up and salvage operations agreement, the Navy provides a variety of oil pollution control equipment. The Navy sent thousands of feet of inflatable oil boom with mooring equipment, several skimming systems, related support gear, and personnel to support oil spill response efforts. Naval Air Station Pensacola is serving as a staging facility for Coast Guard contractor-provided equipment.

Daily On-Site Press Briefing, Legislative and Intergovernmental Calls are Conducted

The next in a daily series of press briefings is conducted between the Minerals Management Service (MMS), the Coast Guard, NOAA, BP and Transocean at the Joint Information Center in Robert, La., as well as daily legislative and intergovernmental calls.

Additional Breach Discovered, President is Briefed and Response Escalates

Late in the day, BP alerted the U.S. government to an additional breach. As soon as the additional breach was discovered, senior officials from across the government already convened in the White House Situation Room immediately briefed the President on Air Force One, and Rear Admiral Landry is sent back out for the second time that day to brief press, this time on the additional breach and the steps the administration is taking to respond, including that the President urged out of an abundance of caution, and mindful of the new information that we must continue to pre-position resources to continue to aggressively confront this incident.

Assets Deployed To Date

Total response vessels: approximately 50 (Boom deployed: 147,100 feet (Oily water recovered: 400,080 gallons (Dispersant used: 56,000 gallons (Dispersant available: 119,734 gallons (Overall personnel responding: more than 1,000

Response Photos:

<http://www.flickr.com/photos/uscgd8/4563719473/in/set-72157623940838176/>

<http://www.flickr.com/photos/39955793@N07/4566316896/>

TUESDAY, APRIL 27

DOI-DHS Announce Formal Investigation Next Steps pan

Secretary Salazar and Secretary Napolitano announce the formal next steps to their joint investigation underway into the causes of the explosion that left 11 workers missing, three critically injured, and an ongoing oil spill that the responsible party and federal agencies are working to contain and clean up. It is proceeding under a Joint Statement of Principles and Convening Order, which convenes the formal joint investigation, and a Memorandum of Agreement, which lays out roles and responsibilities that relate to each agency's area of expertise.

White House Meets with BP to Discuss Response Efforts

Numerous top administration officials, including Secretary Napolitano, Secretary Salazar, White House Senior Advisor Valerie Jarrett and Assistant to the President for Energy and Climate Carol Browner hold meetings in Washington with BP executives and received briefings on company efforts to stop the oil flow.

The President is Briefed

The President monitors the response and is briefed throughout the day by the White House Situation Room

Controlled Burn Plans Are Approved

Plans for a controlled burn of contained oil were approved late at night for the following day. Burns of this type are heavily dependent on weather conditions.

Daily On-Site Press Briefing, Legislative and Intergovernmental Calls are Conducted

The next in a daily series of press briefings is conducted between the Minerals Management Service (MMS), the Coast Guard, NOAA, BP and Transocean at the Joint Information Center in Robert, La., as well as daily legislative and intergovernmental calls.

Assets Deployed To Date-20 Additional Vessels Arrive

- Total response vessels: approximately 50
- Boom deployed: 29,280 feet
- Boom available: 80,900 feet
- Oily water recovered: 260,652 gallons
- Dispersant used: 29,140 gallons
- Dispersant available: 119,734 gallons
- Overall personnel responding: more than 1,000

Response Photos:

<http://www.flickr.com/photos/uscgd8/4563748656/in/set-72157623940838176/>

<http://www.flickr.com/photos/uscgd8/4563118299/in/set-72157623940838176/>

<http://www.flickr.com/photos/uscgd8/4558745875/>

MONDAY, APRIL 26

Secretary Salazar Announces Physical Inspections of All Deepwater Rigs

Secretary Salazar directs MMS to commence physical inspections of all deepwater rigs to be concluded with two weeks, followed by physical inspections of all deepwater platforms.

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Begin Identifying High Priority National Resources for Booming Operations

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service begin working with the Coast Guard and other partners to identify high-priority natural resources (national wildlife refuges) for booming operations along potentially affected Gulf Coast areas.

The President is Briefed

The President monitors the response and is briefed throughout the day by the White House Situation Room

BP Submits Application for Preliminary Drilling

MMS reports that the Application for Preliminary Drilling (APD) for the Development Driller III had been submitted by BP and was currently under review. A total of 15 MMS personnel were deployed to support event response.

Daily On-Site Press Briefing, Legislative and Intergovernmental Calls are Conducted

The next in a daily series of press briefings is conducted between the Minerals Management Service (MMS), the Coast Guard, NOAA, BP and Transocean at the Joint Information Center in Robert, La., as well as daily legislative and intergovernmental calls.

Assets Deployed To Date- 500 More Responders Deploy

- Total response vessels: more than 30
- Boom deployed: 21,340 feet
- Oily water recovered: 48,384 gallons
- Dispersant used: 14,654 gallons
- Dispersant available: 119,734 gallons
- Overall personnel responding: more than 1,000

Response Photos:

<http://www.flickr.com/photos/uscgd8/4557684643/in/set-72157623940838176/>

<http://www.flickr.com/photos/uscgd8/4558317388/in/set-72157623940838176/>

<http://www.flickr.com/photos/uscgd8/4558215118/>

SUNDAY, APRIL 25

Overflights indicated the oil spill size was approximately 48 miles wide by 39 miles long.

Outreach to Potentially Impacted Gulf Coast States, Response Equipment Staging Areas Established

All potentially impacted Gulf Coast states are notified and invited to participate in the command center located in Robert, La. Response equipment staging areas were established in Venice, La., Biloxi, Miss., and Pensacola, Fla.

U.S. Naval Air Station Serves as Staging Facility

At the request of the Coast Guard, the U.S. Navy provides Naval Air Station Pensacola as a staging facility for BP-contractor provided equipment (i.e. containment booms, recovery barges, tractor trailer trucks, various pumps and other related oil response equipment).

20 More Vessels and 500 Responders Are Deployed In Case Situation Worsens

The response continues to mobilize and move more resources into the gulf to support BP, the responsible party, and apply federal resources to mitigate environmental damage, including moving 20 more vessels to the area and deploying 500 responders

MMS Approves Resumption of One of the Two Pipelines Previously Shut Down and Works With BP on Exploration Plan to Drill Relief Wells

MMS approves resumption of one of the two pipelines that were previously shut down to allow for inspection, and continued to work with BP on an exploration plan to drill the two relief wells.

The President is Briefed

The President monitors the response and is briefed throughout the day by the White House Situation Room

Daily On-Site Press Briefing, Legislative and Intergovernmental Calls are Conducted

The next in a daily series of press briefings is conducted between the Minerals Management Service (MMS), the Coast Guard, NOAA, BP and Transocean at the Joint Information Center in Robert, La., as well as daily legislative and intergovernmental calls.

Assets Deployed To Date

- 20 More Vessels and 500 Responders
Total response vessels: more than 30 (Boom deployed: 21,340 feet (Oily water recovered: approximately 42,000 gallons (Dispersant used: 12,600 gallons Dispersant available: approximately 100,000 gallons (Overall personnel responding: approximately 500

Response Photos:

http://cgvi.uscg.mil/media/main.php?g2_itemId=841178

<http://www.flickr.com/photos/uscgd8/4552485336/>

SATURDAY, APRIL 24

First Oil Leaks Discovered and USCG Elevates Response

For the first time, oil was found to be leaking one leak from the riser and one leak from the drill pipe. The Coast Guard elevated the response and established a Regional Command Center and Joint Information Center in Robert, La., inviting all partners in the response to join.

NPS Prepares for Potential Oil Spill on national park land along the Gulf Coast

NPS begins cataloging resources and sampling pre-landfall conditions of resources in order to prepare for potential impact of the oil spill on national park land along the Gulf Coast.

MMS Begins to Review BP Applications for Permit to Drill Two Relief Wells.

MMS reports that they expected to receive and begin reviewing BP Applications for Permit to Drill (APD) for two relief wells. Four remote operated marine vehicles continued to monitor the stack, conduct surveys of the riser and pipelines, and assess the stability of the sunken rig.

The President is Briefed

The President monitors the response and is briefed throughout the day by the White House Situation Room

Daily On-Site Press Briefing, Legislative and Intergovernmental Calls are Conducted

The next in a daily series of press briefings is conducted between the Minerals Management Service (MMS), the Coast Guard, NOAA, BP and Transocean this time at the newly-formed Joint Information Center in Robert, La., as well as daily legislative and intergovernmental calls.

Assets Deployed To Date

Total response vessels: approximately 10

Oily water recovered: approximately 40,000 gallons

Response Photos:

<http://www.flickr.com/photos/uscgd8/4549418892/>

FRIDAY, APRIL 23

No Apparent Leak

The rig was found sunken and upside down approximately 1,500 feet northwest of the blowout preventer. An oil sheen was reported with approximately 8,400 gallons estimated on the water and there was no apparent leak discovered.

White House Convened Principal Level Meeting to Discuss Response and Planning In Case Situation Worsens

White House convenes principal level meeting with top officials from across the government including Secretary Napolitano and the NRT in the White House Situation Room to review actions underway and discuss policy considerations and planning in case the situation worsens.

U.S. Government Continues to Mobilize and Move More Resources In Case Situation Worsens

The U.S. government continues to mobilize and move more resources into the gulf to support BP, the responsible party, and apply federal resources to mitigate environmental damage, including moving 8 more vessels to the area

EPA Prepares To Deploy Staff to the Region for Air Monitoring

EPA begins preparations to deploy staff to the region to support the Coast Guard with air monitoring and other activities.

MMS Shuts Down Two Pipelines In the Area To Do Inspection

MMS reports that two pipelines in the vicinity of the sunken rig were shut down until they could be inspected.

Sunken Rig Assessments Continue

Four remote operated marine vehicles continue to monitor the stack, conduct surveys of the riser and pipelines, and assess the stability of the sunken rig.

Unified Area Command is Formally Stood Up

The Unified Area Command is formally and fully stood up in Robert, La., after three days of informal operations and planning.

The President is Briefed

The President monitors the response and is briefed throughout the day by the White House Situation Room

NOAA's National Weather Service Begins Coordinated Scientific Weather Reports

NOAA's National Weather Service begins providing coordinated scientific weather and biological response services to federal, state and local organizations.

Search and Rescue Suspends at 5 p.m.

The Coast Guard continues to actively search for all 11 missing individuals until approximately 5 p.m., when the search was suspended.

Daily Legislative Calls Begin and Daily Response On-Site Press Briefing and Intergovernmental Calls Are Conducted, Deepwaterhorizonresponse.com is launched.

The Coast Guard conducts the next in a daily series of press briefings and intergovernmental calls. A response website with consolidated information was established at:
<http://www.deepwaterhorizonresponse.com>

Assets Deployed To Date:

- 8 More Vessels arrive
- Total response vessels: approximately 10
- Oily water recovered: 7,600 gallons
- Dispersant used: 1,900 gallons

THURSDAY, APRIL 22

Deepwater Horizon Oil Rig Sinks

At approximately 10:22 a.m., the oil rig sank with approximately 700,000 gallons of diesel fuel on board.

The National Response Team (NRT) is Activated

On the afternoon of April 22, the National Response Team (NRT) convenes its first daily meeting with leadership from across the federal government, including the White House, U.S. Coast Guard, the Department of Defense, DHS, DOC, DOI and EPA, among others. The NRT is an organization of 16 federal departments and agencies responsible for coordinating emergency preparedness and response to oil and hazardous substance pollution events. During this event, NRT meetings have been run by Secretary Napolitano.

The President Convenes a Principal Level Meeting: Treat This Response as The Number One Priority

The President convenes a meeting in the Oval Office with principals across the government to discuss the situation and ongoing response efforts, and ordered that the administration use every single available resource at its disposal to respond to the event and investigate its cause. A

readout was issued to press stating: The President made sure that the entire federal government was offering all assistance needed in the rescue effort as well as in mitigating and responding to the environmental impact and that this response was being treated as the number one priority. The President asked the responding departments to devote every resource needed to respond to this incident and investigate its cause.

The NRT Holds Second Meeting of the Day to Implement President Obama s Instructions

Following the Oval Office meeting, the NRT holds a second evening meeting again including the Coast Guard, the Department of Defense, DHS, DOC, DOI and EPA, among others.

No Apparent Leak

Air and sea restriction zones are established around the sink site for safety purposes. The Coast Guard conducted overflights and multiple unsuccessful dives were made with remote operated marine vehicles to find the wellhead. No leak was apparent.

Dispersants Are Pre-Positioned In Case Situation Worsens

Despite a lack of apparent leak, 100,000 gallons of dispersants are already pre-positioned between Stennis, Miss., Houma and Lake Charles, La., and pre-approved for use by EPA Regions VI and IV Regional Response Teams.

NOAA Begins to Provide Marine Pollution Surveillance Reports

NOAA Satellite and Information Service provides the first experimental marine pollution surveillance report using satellite data, and began providing daily updates.

Search and Rescue Continues

Coast Guard continues to actively search for all 11 missing individuals from the rig through the night, with multiple units responding.

Intergovernmental Calls with Potentially Impacted Gulf Coast Communities Begin

Intergovernmental calls update potentially impacted gulf coast communities the response are communicated to potentially impacted Gulf Coast communities

Daily Response On-Site Press Briefing is Conducted

The next in a daily series of press briefings was conducted between the Minerals Management Service (MMS), the Coast Guard, NOAA, BP and Transocean.

Assets Deployed To Date

Total response vessels: Two Coast Guard cutters

Total response aircraft: Four helicopters and one rescue plane

Response Photos:

<http://www.flickr.com/photos/uscgd8/4551846015/in/set-72157623940838176/>

<http://www.flickr.com/photos/39955793@N07/4545746887/>

http://cgvi.uscg.mil/media/main.php?g2_itemId=838790

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 21

Deputy Secretary of Interior David Hayes is Deployed to the Gulf Coast

The morning after the explosion, Secretary of the Interior Ken Salazar deployed Deputy Secretary David J. Hayes to the Gulf Coast to assist with coordination and response to the event, and provide hourly reports to Secretary Salazar and other administration officials.

Interagency Coordination Begins Across the Government, Federal On-Scene Coordinator is Named and Regional Response Team is Stood Up.

Interagency coordination begins immediately among federal partners including the Coast Guard; the Departments of Homeland Security (DHS), Commerce (DOC), Interior (DOI); and the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) providing federal assets and overseeing BP's response. Pursuant to the National Contingency Plan, Rear Admiral Mary Landry was named the Federal On-Scene Coordinator and a Regional Response Team was stood up that included the U.S. Coast Guard, DHS, DOC/NOAA, DOI and the EPA, as well as state and local representatives. The Regional Response Team immediately began developing plans, providing technical advice and access to resources and equipment from its member agencies, and overseeing BP's response.

The Administration Oversees BP's Response

The administration begins holding meetings and regular calls with BP leadership to discuss BP's response effort, as well as federal oversight and support, and urged BP to leverage additional assets to help respond to this event.

Interagency Joint DHS-DOI Investigation Begins

Secretary Salazar and Secretary Napolitano direct that a joint investigation begin into the cause of the event. The investigation, jointly led by the U.S. Coast Guard and the Minerals Management Service (MMS), are given subpoena power, will hold public hearings, and call witnesses. MMS and USCG begin interviewing rig personnel.

National Park Service Plans Contingencies to Protect Vulnerable Parks Along Gulf Coast

The National Parks Service (NPS) Spill Response Coordinator, Regional Emergency Services Coordinator, and Deputy Chief of Emergency Services begin strategic planning of contingencies to protect potentially vulnerable national parks along the Gulf Coast.

MMS Establishes Ops Center and Deploys Staff to BP and Transocean Command Posts MMS establishes an Emergency Operations Center at its Gulf of Mexico Regional Office in New Orleans, and deployed employees to the BP Incident Command Post (ICP) and the Transocean ICP in Houston.

NOAA Selects Scientific Support Coordinator and Deploys Him to USCG Command Post

NOAA Environmental Scientist Charlie Henry arrive on site at the Coast Guard s Command Post in Morgan City, La., to serve as NOAA s Scientific Support Coordinator. NOAA issued the initial trajectory advice and began providing them twice daily.

The President is Briefed

The President monitors the response and is briefed throughout the day by the White House Situation Room

Search and Rescue Continues

Of the 126 total people on the rig at the time of the event, 115 crew members were accounted for. The Coast Guard continued to actively search for all 11 individuals still missing through the night, with multiple units, vessels and aircraft responding.

Daily Response On-Site Press Briefing Begins

The first in a daily series of press briefings was conducted between the Minerals Management Service (MMS), the Coast Guard, BP and Transocean.

Assets Deployed To Date

Total response vessels: Two Coast Guard cutters

Total response aircraft: Four helicopters and one rescue plane

Response Photos:

http://cgvi.uscg.mil/media/main.php?g2_itemId=836364

http://cgvi.uscg.mil/media/main.php?g2_itemId=836361

http://cgvi.uscg.mil/media/main.php?g2_itemId=835864

http://cgvi.uscg.mil/media/main.php?g2_itemId=837369

TUESDAY, APRIL 20

Search and Rescue

The U.S. government response to the BP Oil Spill began immediately after the explosion on the night of April 20 as an emergency search-and-rescue mission. At approximately 10:30 p.m. that night, notification was received that Mobile Offshore Drilling Unit (MODU) Deepwater Horizon had exploded and was on fire. The rig was located 45 miles southeast of Venice, La.

Establish Command Center to Address Potential Environmental Impacts

Concurrently, the administration also quickly establishes a command center on the Gulf Coast to address the potential environmental impact of the event and to coordinate with all state and local governments. Since this point, the administration has continuously anticipated and planned for a worst-case scenario.

NOAA Mobilizes to Provide Trajectory Support

The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) mobilizes within three hours of the explosion and started to provide trajectory support and coordinated scientific weather and biological response services. The NOAA weather forecast office in Slidell, La., also provided weather information to the Coast Guard at its request shortly after the explosion to support initial search-and-rescue operations.

The President is Alerted

The President is alerted to the event and he begins actively monitoring the situation. At the time, it was known that 126 people were on the rig when the explosion occurred.

Assets Deployed To Date

Total response vessels: Two Coast Guard cutters

Total response aircraft: Four helicopters and one rescue plane

